



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Cameroon

Resumption of Constitutional Dialogue Announced

LD0611133494 Paris Radio France International
in French 1230 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] To mark the 12th anniversary of his coming to power in Cameroon, President Paul Biya has announced the resumption of the constitutional dialogue suspended 18 months ago. However, no details were given about how this dialogue will proceed. The Cameroonian president also announced that municipal elections will be held next year. These elections have already been postponed twice in the past and were last scheduled for 1994.

Congo

Three Labor Federations Issue Indefinite Strike Notice

AB0411185094 Paris AFP in French 1739 GMT
3 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Brazzaville, 3 Nov (AFP)—Three Congolese labor union federations have issued an indefinite general strike notice in the civil service and state-owned enterprises to start as of 8 November following the failure of their negotiations with the government, it was learned today from labor sources here.

These three federations, which are close to the opposition, and, particularly, the Confederation of Congolese Labor Unions [CSTC]—the biggest in the country—are demanding the payment of four months of civil servants' salary arrears, out of the 12 months owed by the government, as well as a pledge to pay salaries and pensions regularly.

Yesterday, negotiations between the government and the five labor federations in Congo did not lead to an agreement, notably, on the payment of civil servants' salaries.

Following negotiations initiated in January, the government reached an agreement with the federations in April on the regular payment of civil servants' salaries, but this has not been implemented yet. "We have been talking for nine months now, nothing concrete has been done by the government," Moise Lobe, a CSTC official, said on national radio.

Congolese Prime Minister Joachim Yhombi-Opango stated on 30 October on radio that state revenue, estimated at 7 billion CFA francs a month, does not allow the government to pay civil servants' salaries regularly. Compared to this revenue, he added, the annual wage bill of government workers alone is estimated at more than 130 billion CFA francs, that is to say, 11 billion CFA francs each month.

Security Forces Deployed

AB0611194694 Paris AFP in English 1836 GMT
6 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Brazzaville, 6 Nov (AFP)—Security forces took up position Sunday [6 November] in Brazzaville to keep order as a general strike called for Tuesday by three main unions loomed. The pro-opposition Trades Union Confederation of Congolese Workers (CSTC), and two other unions served notice of an unlimited strike to force the government to pay outstanding wages, unpaid for up to a year in some cases. The unions invited workers to "stay at home" and not to demonstrate.

On Friday, after receiving union leaders, President Pascal Lissouba accused an unnamed neighbouring state of wanting to profit from the strike to foment unrest in the Congo. In a declaration carried on Congolese radio Sunday, three unions close to the presidency meanwhile called on their supporters not to join the strike in order to "preserve social peace."

National Debt Figures, Payment Problems

AB0511123794 Brazzaville Radio Nationale Congolaise Network in French 0700 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Congo's debt is increasing at an alarming rate. It now stands at 3.001 trillion CFA francs. Can the Congolese Government fulfill the expectations of social partners and make good its external engagements in this acutely gloomy economy climate? Jean-Rodrigue Amarapenda has the details.

[Begin Amarapenda recording] [Passage omitted] The country's debt now stands at 3.001 trillion CFA francs. Several factors contributed to the debt increase. One of the major weaknesses of Congo's debt policy is no doubt the lack of a true debt policy. For political reasons, decisions on investment funding were made without taking into consideration the country's ability to absorb foreign capital or how long it could resort to debt servicing without facing external debt payment problems. Furthermore, there were no viable statistics on debts. The government did not have any mechanism for debt management which could supply information on debts or provide viable forecasts for future debt servicing. There were also restrictions on access to concessional loans. The IMF and World Bank had tightened conditions of access to loans. This forced Congo to resort to private funding which was very costly and was awarded at market conditions. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Gabon

New Government Sworn In

AB0411152294 Libreville RTG Chaine Nationale Radio Network in French 0800 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Bongo left Libreville for France a few hours after the government took office.

The swearing-in ceremony was initially scheduled to take place on 2 November but was postponed two times for unknown reasons. Finally, yesterday afternoon the government officially took office. The scheduled cabinet meeting was postponed. The three ministers of the High Council of the Resistance [HCR], who decided to join this government against the will of the HCR, attended the ceremony which was chaired by the prime minister. Now that all is said and done, the ball is in their court. Because the truth always triumphs, we will know who is right in a few months. The three ministers, who joined the government in accordance with the terms of the Paris Agreement, are Maganga Moussavou of the Social Democratic Party Alexandre Sambat, an independent candidate; and Gaston Mozogo Ovono.

[Words indistinct] to join the government on behalf of the HCR will probably be the topic of discussion this morning at the Democratic Center during the meeting of the deputies who are members of the HCR.

As you know, the HCR wants the number of portfolios attributed to it to be increased without changing the number of the members of the government which, according to the Paris Agreement, is fixed at 26 plus one. [sentence as heard]

Rwanda

UNAMIR Officials Confirm Killers Entered From Zaire

EA0311211594 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English 1830 GMT 3 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpts] A preliminary report on the recent killings that claimed 36 lives in Gisenyi has been released by UNAMIR [UN Assistance Mission to Rwanda]. [passage omitted] General comments: The attacks appeared to have been a well-planned operation by one source with three well-known objectives to hit or reach simultaneously. This can be inferred from the time of attack in each occasion and the efficiency and speed with which the mission was accomplished. The victims were ordinary farmers who may not have had any other place to live to feel secure. The choice of [words indistinct] seems to have been dictated by their easy accessibility. The attacks as a first of the kind in Sector Five or at least known as (Mirobo) Sector Five, they could be a prelude to what is yet to come unless appropriate measures are adopted to ensure these isolated hamlets are well-protected. Radio Rwanda talked to the commander of UNAMIR observers, Lieutenant Colonel (Mike Hostdell):

[Begin recording] [(Hostdell)] [passage omitted] It would appear that individuals came in from Zaire, committed the massacres and then departed back across the border. All was in the very, very short space of time.

[Unidentified correspondent] According to you, what could be the objective of these criminals?

[(Hostdell)] The objective would appear to be to put fear into the people who are living along, along [as heard] the border. And it's, it is to create, it would appear to create uncertainty and fear among the farmers who are living in these isolated areas, that perhaps it's not safe to still live here in Rwanda. [end recording]

Our correspondent talked to the Army commander in the area, Lt. Col. Charles Kayonga, who confirmed that the killers infiltrated from Zaire.

United Nations To Send Troops to Zaire Camps

EA0411164894 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English 1145 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Continued insecurity continues to plague aid workers in refugee camps in Zaire. Fifteen NGO's [nongovernmental organizations] working in the camps say that their work has been frustrated by militias who interfere with distribution of food where many continue using threats against aid workers. As a result aid workers are said to be leaving in big numbers and the United Nations has said it will send in between 1,000 and 2,000 UN soldiers to these camps. [passage omitted]

Exiles Say Kigali Government Causing Disorder in Zaire

AB0611161694 Paris AFP in English 1511 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nairobi, 6 Nov (AFP)—Rwandan exiles on Sunday [6 November] accused the new government in Rwanda of sending military personnel to Zaire "to sow disorder in the refugee camps." They said international humanitarian aid bodies should give priority to arrangements made by the refugees themselves and not "follow blindly the propaganda of the RPF" (Rwandan Patriotic Front). The RPF, the former rebel movement largely made up of the minority Tutsi tribe, has been in power in the capital Kigali since July.

The charge was made in a fax to the AFP, dated from Nairobi, which said the refugees were capable of looking after their own security. The fax bore no name or telephone number but came from the "Rwandan community in exile." Many senior officials and supporters of the previous regime in Rwanda have sought exile in Kenya but have not previously acted as an organized group.

"With the help of the authorities in Zaire, the Rwanda refugees are capable of looking after their own security, provided that certain people working for aid organizations take care not to combine humanitarian work with political propaganda," the statement said.

The Rwandans in exile accused the RPF of having "infiltrated military personnel into Zaire with the aim....of sowing disorder in the refugee camps, to create

circumstances in which the humanitarian aid organizations lose heart and abandon the refugees to their miserable fate."

"The international community, the United Nations and the United States must weigh their responsibilities in the event of a new escalation of violence arising from the presence of undesirable outside forces in the refugee camps," the statement added.

Fifteen humanitarian organizations have threatened to withdraw from the refugee camps at Goma if the international community fails to take measures to ensure security. They say that living and working conditions in the camps have reached "an unacceptably dangerous level."

The UN Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali is due to study ways of remedying the lack of security in Geneva on Tuesday. One option under consideration is the deployment of an inter-African police force.

Communiqué Issued on Meeting With Kuwaiti Amir

EA0311173394 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French 0500
GMT 3 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpts] The communiqué on the official visit of His Excellency Pasteur Bizimungu, the president of the Republic, to the Kuwaiti amir has been published. It reads as follows:

On the invitation of His Highness Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, the president of the Rwandan Republic, His Excellency Pasteur Bizimungu, made an official visit to Kuwait from 31 October to 2 November 1994. [passage omitted]

Concerning Rwanda, the two heads of state expressed their indignation about the genocide and systematic massacres which recently took place there—a drama which came about as a result of a long period of denial of fundamental rights to the Rwandan people. They then expressed satisfaction with the pace at which the situation was returning to normal in Rwanda, and laid particular emphasis on the need to support the normalization. They also encouraged regional efforts to resolve the problem of the Rwandan refugees and displaced people. They issued an appeal to all friendly countries to assist Rwanda in its current reconstruction efforts.

The two heads of state recognized the similarity of atrocities suffered by our two peoples in the past and their determination to reconstruct the two countries. In this respect, they stressed the need for mutual solidarity through reinforced cooperation in the economic, financial, and social sectors. His highness the amir of Kuwait reaffirmed the availability of his country to assist Rwanda in its reconstruction efforts. His highness and his excellency also agreed that bilateral discussions continue at ministerial level to cement this solidarity.

At the end of his official visit, His Excellency Pasteur Bizimungu expressed gratitude to his highness the amir of Kuwait, the Government and Kuwaiti people for the warm welcome extended to him and his delegation and invited his highness the amir of Kuwait to visit Rwanda at a date to be determined by the two governments.

Zaire

Government Silent Over Relations With Angola

AB0311131194 Paris AFP in French 2139 GMT
2 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kinshasa, 2 Nov (AFP)—Zaire today kept silent officially over its ties with Angola, where its foreign minister, Lunda Bululu, held discussions with Venacio da Moura, his Angolan counterpart.

The SALONGO newspaper, which is close to the Zairian presidential group, reported this visit today and described it as a "friendly visit." The unofficial mouthpiece of the former sole party—The Popular Movement of the Revolution—for more than 20 years now, SALONGO writes that "the jagged relations existing between the two countries need to be reactivated regularly."

According to official sources in Luanda, Mr. Bululu delivered a personal message from Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos on the holding of a Zaire-Angola summit. Zaire has always supported the armed Angolan opposition movement, National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), led by Jonas Savimbi. UNITA and the Angolan Government signed on 31 October in Lusaka, Zambia, a peace agreement that is expected to end 18 years of civil war in Angola.

Mandela Promises Tough Stance on MK, Police Conflicts

MB0511173994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1635
GMT 5 Nov 94

[Text of speech by President Nelson Mandela to the PWV ANC Fifth Provincial Congress in Johannesburg; issued by the ANC on the SAPA PR Wire Service on 5 November]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The responsibility of the ANC is enormous in Africa but also the Middle East. The way the ANC is respected made it very difficult for me to enjoy the quiet rest I went to the Middle East for. Once people knew I was there, they wanted to engage me in discussions.

Western countries constantly talk of human rights, but the countries are full of poverty and unemployment. However, in Saudi Arabia they, for example, offer free education right up to university level and other educational institutions, such as technikons and teachers training colleges. Not only is such education free, but at tertiary institutions students get paid a monthly allowance.

Although I did not meet the king this time, nevertheless he knew I was there and of the needs in our country.

The world in general and the Middle East in particular is immediately informed of what we are doing here in South Africa and follows our actions closely.

The ANC values self-criticism. Those who come out against us cannot come out with credibility. That is why we are so powerful. The ANC's decisions are only taken after broad consultation, not only within our own structures, but beyond that to other organisations and groups.

It is important to have powerful and mature advisors. In conferences of this nature, we meet as comrades and we should leave knowing other comrades appreciate our contributions. Because I have been armed by my comrades to do my work, I can do it so much better and in the interests of all the people of South Africa.

Whatever our problems, we know that we are in power and we must exercise that power. I have called a top level meeting with the police on 10 November 1994 so that people in government begin to realise the ANC is in charge.

To charge one of our ministers, especially a minister of public safety and security, is a challenge we cannot allow to remain unanswered. Especially when murderers and drug dealers are running free around the country.

On the question of MK [Umkhonto we Sizwe—Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing], we cannot allow the problem to continue. There are four points that emerged from my discussion with MK, who have legitimate grievances.

1. The integration process of MK, APLA [Azanian People's Liberation Army] and other structures, amounts to them being co-opted into the old Defence Force. That must stop; we are on an equal basis. The Defence Force must reflect the population profile of our country.

2. The integration process itself is very slow. In the past, the Defence Force was able to process 60,000 people a month now they cannot do this in six months.

3. Thirdly, there is still racism. The chaps on the ground are being ordered around as second class citizens.

4. The living conditions of our people are very bad.

However, I told MK I am not prepared to listen to wild allegations. I fully support therefore their demands and grievances. But I differ with some of the methods they are using.

I gave an ultimatum to those who had left base AWOL seven days to return. Some returned. Those who did not will never be members of MK again. Some returned for their pay and left.

In my discussions with senior officials of the movement, I said if we don't handle this issue properly, we will have a major problem.

I am asking you to take a resolution fully supporting the minister of defence and coming out clearly in condemning the actions of dissident MKs.

We have been open and transparent. Take General Van der Merwe, who promised to support a democratic government. He must now be accountable to us. Until now they have paid a miserable salary to the police, but to embarrass us they talk about collecting money to increase the salaries of the police. We are calling a meeting to get them to account.

In Port Shepstone, 14 people were killed, yet, despite sufficient evidence, nobody is arrested. I am taking this to the cabinet. We cannot allow a police force to develop in opposition to the government.

They are declaring war on us. We are not declaring war on them; we are merely going to collect them and discipline them. Our actions should be informed that the entire world is behind us, and if we abdicate this mantle, people will be very disappointed.

Mandela Says in Good Health; Rejects Concerns

MB0411153694 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1400 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Nelson Mandela has rejected concerns about his health on his return home from a two-week holiday in Saudi Arabia. Mr. Mandela told correspondents at the Waterkloof Air Force Base that his visit to a Saudi hospital had not been for medical reasons, and that he was in good health for his age. Mr. Mandela said he'd enjoyed a restful time during his rare

break, and that he'd met the Saudi royal family several times, and had visited disabled children during his stay.

Answers Questions on Health, Politics

MB0611174194 Johannesburg *RAPPORT* in Afrikaans
6 Nov 94 p 2

[Report on interview with President Nelson Mandela by correspondent Anne-Marie Mischke "shortly after his return" from Saudi Arabia; place not given: "Mandela Declares: I Am Alive and Well"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The president is fit and healthy, and he is back in South Africa. That was the message delivered by President Nelson Mandela's personnel after he returned on Friday [4 November] from a two week vacation in Saudi Arabia.

The stock exchange reacted negatively, the financial rand dropped, the gold price fluttered, and foreign investors apparently started asking questions after reports about poor health before his departure and further reports that he consulted a doctor during his vacation—something that has been denied.

Shortly after his return, President Mandela agreed to be interviewed by *RAPPORT* and broadly answered questions regarding his health. He is very healthy and fit for his age. He still exercises every morning for an hour. There was never any sign of malignancy during and after his prostate operation 10 years ago. Two weeks ago, he asked for a second opinion on his eye problem and was told that he will recover completely after a recent operation.

Hectic Schedule

However, he confirms that he will cut down on his hectic schedule. In the first few months after the election, people wanted to hold talks with the president personally—only with the president—or have him as a guest. But now they understand that his load must be reduced, he says.

This week marks his sixth month in power, and he is still optimistic about the way in which the transition was handled. He believes that the biggest achievement in that time was the huge amount of reconciliation and nation-building, and he says that he did not really have any big disappointments during this time.

He answered questions on a wide variety of issues, including:

—The integration of MK [Umkhonto we Sizwe—Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing] in the National Army:

President Mandela repeats that the MK members had legitimate grievances. Nevertheless, he regards discipline as important. No matter what happens, he says, South Africa will get a disciplined army. Members who are undisciplined must face the consequences. Those who

have not heeded the ultimatum to return to their bases within a specified time are out. Members who recently went absent without leave must be punished.

—The question on whether the country has a "disciplinary problem" in terms of rent and service boycotts, strikes, etc., and whether the government will have to clamp down hard on this.

Perspective

We must place the situation in perspective, says the president. On one hand, people are still living under the same, often desperate conditions that they were living in before the election. They will only rest when they see that they are getting homes, running water, electricity, work, and education. They have the right to fight for what they want. One also has to deal with an attitude that has developed over the years—one of demonstrations, boycotts, and struggle [preceding word in English].

There are experienced leaders in COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] and in the civic organizations who realize the dangers of anarchy, and the government is negotiating with them. It is everyone's task to change the attitudes of people, to explain to people what the situation is. For this reason, he is not unduly concerned.

—The feeling of estrangement some Afrikaners, and other whites, complain about, saying they feel abandoned, as if they have no real share in the country.

He prefers to be positive—that a significant group of Afrikaners supports the government of national unity wholeheartedly and wants to work together.

Constand Viljoen

The best proof of this spirit of cooperation is General Constand Viljoen and the Freedom Front [FF]. When the FF leader stands up in Parliament, the ANC members sometimes shout out *Viva!*, because Viljoen himself has said that he gets a more sympathetic ear from the ANC than the NP [National Party].

"This is a man from the far-right who is working with us now to deal with problems like the illegal immigrants from Mozambique. For example, he made positive proposals, along with members of the agricultural unions, on how jobs can be created to keep the people in their own country. In December, the general will visit Mozambique at the invitation of President Chissano," President Mandela says.

As far as the Conservative Party and Dr. Ferdi Hartzenberg are concerned, they hold regular talks on common problems. Dr. Hartzenberg "is very constructive at times, although he may have painted himself in a corner," and President Mandela believes that he just "needs a bridge to cross over."

"I believe we have addressed the language issue, and we will deal sensitively with the land issue," he adds.

—Opposition to the privatization of state assets like Eskom [Electricity Supply Commission], Telkom [Telecommunications Corporation], and the Post Office among ANC alliance supporters.

The president says that, in the past, he was also against privatization because, under the former government, it would have kept the wealth of the country in the hands of a small group of whites. Now there is a new government, and blacks also have access to capital and training and can now have a share in state assets when they are privatized.

Blame

His own views have changed now, but he does not blame his supporters if they are still skeptical. They will have to be persuaded that privatization is to their advantage.

—The question as to whether the ANC has also changed its views toward nationalization and other socialist characteristics of its policy.

President Mandela says there was never really a "confirmed policy" of socialism in the ANC. There were "ideas in that direction," but the ANC has always shied away from ideological attitudes toward the economy. The word nationalization has also never been used. It has been said, however, that the mines, banks, and monopolies belong to the people.

A change in direction came about in 1992. Without saying that nationalization is wrong, we have realized that the country will never attract investors if nationalization is introduced. There was immediate positive reaction, and, for this reason, he does not believe that an ANC government will ever nationalize.

Further on Mandela Address

MB0511194894 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1800 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Nelson Mandela has issued a stinging warning to former MK [Umkhonto we Sizwe—Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing] soldiers dissatisfied with their lot in the South African National Defense Force. He told an ANC PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] congress that his patience is exhausted and that he intends to bring discipline to the army and to the dissident MK members in particular.

The ramblings in the South African National Defense Force and the problems with the integration of former MK soldiers came to a head on Monday when 5,000 MK soldiers again left the Wallmarinstal base north of Pretoria after receiving their pay. They cited appalling living conditions and racial and sexual harassment as reasons for leaving.

On Wednesday, Defense Minister Joe Modise issued an ultimatum giving the deserters until midnight tomorrow to return to base. Today, President Mandela reiterated

the warning when he paid a surprise visit to the ANC PWV region's fifth annual conference.

[Begin Mandela recording] We are determined to bring order in the Defense Force generally and in MK in particular. We can't command an army of criminals, of bandits, because people who go away from their base and defy an order by a commanding officer are not soldiers. Just imagine what will happen if during a war, when the Army—a section of the Army—is going to leave camp because they are dissatisfied with the conditions.

The strongest discipline is going to be taken against those who do not come back on Sunday or who come back after they have left. They will be disciplined, although the discipline might be different. But those who do not come back, they must know that my patience has been exhausted, and I am going to vent my anger on them. [applause] [end recording]

NP Criticizes Mandela for Statements on Police

MB0711085494 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 0430 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Party [NP] says President Nelson Mandela was ill-advised when he questioned the integrity of the police in a speech in Johannesburg. The president had said that the police cannot be allowed to become an opposition to the government and will have to be disciplined.

NP spokesman Mr. Danie Schutte says the government of national unity, not the ANC, governs the country. The police are not the property of any political party; if they were, they would not be able to combat crime effectively.

Mr. Schutte said the NP is anxiously awaiting the outcome of the investigation into the shooting incident at ANC headquarters and the alleged involvement of self-defense units in the activities of hit squads.

Mbeki Says Rebuilding Country New Mission of ANC

MB0511144194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2209 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg Nov 4 SAPA—The African National Congress is beginning to realize the building of a new South Africa is going to be more difficult than the defeat of the apartheid regime, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said on Friday [4 November].

He was speaking as ANC national chairman at the organization's fifth PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] provincial conference at Protea Gardens Hotel in Berea, Johannesburg.

The ANC, he said, faced enormous challenges in thinking through, planning and understanding the process of transforming the country to meet the needs of its

people. "This requires a strong ANC. Part of what we have to do is remobilise our people to tackle this new task."

Since the election the structures of the ANC had been weakened.

There had been no hesitation when the call went out to engage in a determined offensive to defeat the apartheid system. "This congress ought to pay tribute to our heroes and heroines who sacrificed to bring us where we are, to celebrate the victory in a struggle of many decades, centuries, to end minority white domination. We have in this province a government headed by the ANC and in the country a government headed by the ANC. This is a great victory."

Mr Mbeki said the ANC's new mission was to reconstruct and develop the country as part of the continuing struggle to change the lives of the people for the better. This new command, the ANC was discovering, was more difficult to carry out.

The Reconstruction and Development Programme was an enormous challenge. On it depended job creation, the generation of money to build houses, provision of better health care, and the expansion of resources in the hands of the government.

The role of the trade union movement in this transformation had to be discussed, said Mr Mbeki. The trade union movement could not stop at only looking after the interests of its members. "Surely the task of the progressive trade union movement is to participate and impact upon this process of transformation."

The ANC had to engage the movement and the civic structures in the process. The trade union movement and the civic bodies had to understand they were the builders of the new future, and they should not just demand that the government deliver.

The conference should focus very clearly on the fact that the future of millions of South Africans depended on what the ANC did, Mr Mbeki said.

Further on Thabo Mbeki Address

MB0511210194 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0600 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Deputy President Thabo Mbeki says the Reconstruction and Development Program is still being compromised by large outflows of money from the country. He told the ANC annual PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] conference in Johannesburg last night that the country had to move away from an economy based on exporting raw materials and importing the manufactured product. He said South Africa could only become more competitive on the world market if it increased the volume of its production.

[Begin Mbeki recording] But the problem was that our cost of production was 30- to 40- percent higher than the

highest cost of production in western Europe—low productivity levels, low levels of training, of education, management skills. I'm saying in the result when we say: Let us expand this industry, let's export, you can't, because we are 30 to 40 percent more expensive than the most expensive competitor in Europe. [end recording]

Afrikaans Paper: Communism Basis for Mandela-Clinton Bond

MB0411202194 Pretoria PATRIOT in Afrikaans 28 Oct 94 p 5

[FBIS Translated Text] While South Africa has a president who has written a textbook on how to be a good communist, the United States too has a state president who studied communism.

According to the AMERICAN INFORMATION NEWSLETTER, Bill Clinton, during a visit to Italy in 1987, studied a radical form of communism there. When correspondent Antionio Soccia asked Clinton whether the study of Italian communism's cooperatives could become his "economic prescription" for the United States, his reply was "absolutely." It is therefore no wonder that the U.S. president and his South African counterpart found each other so quickly and apparently established a mutual fan club. However, Clinton is one ahead because he has, as befitting a good communist servant of the big money interests, sent Mandela home full of good wishes but without the necessary heaps of money.

National Assembly Approves First Post-Election Budget

MB0411133694 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1100 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] South Africa's first budget since the country's first all-race election in April has been adopted unanimously by the National Assembly. The bill is now being debated in the Senate.

Finance Minister Interviewed

MB0411140094 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0515 GMT 4 Nov 94

[Interview with Finance Minister Chris Liebenberg in the Cape Town studio by SABC presenters Tim Modise and Chris Landsberg in Johannesburg, on the "Good Morning South Africa" program—italicized passages in Afrikaans]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Modise] Now it's time to meet the man in the driving seat of South Africa's economy, Finance Minister Chris Liebenberg. Indeed, there have been some interesting developments lately, some would say shifts in government policy, for which Mr. Liebenberg is being credited.

[Landsberg] Yes, this morning we welcome Finance Minister Mr. Chris Liebenberg in our Cape Town studio.

Good morning, Minister. Let me begin by asking you about your appointment. Of course we are all aware that it did not follow the regular constitutional process. Why? Is it because of your understanding of the economy?

[Liebenberg] Well, I have never been politically inclined and when I was asked to take over the position from Mr. Derek Keys, I made it a condition that I would not be expected to become politically involved at this stage of my life. I was rather flattered that the president and Parliament eventually agreed that they would keep the post nonpolitical.

[Landsberg] Just one more question on that point: How do you get along with your colleague, Deputy Minister Alec Erwin? One hears many good things about him.

[Liebenberg] Well, he is an outstanding person. In Parliament yesterday I said that when one takes over an organization, much is dictated by the person who preceded you. But it is also dictated by... [five-second break in transmission]

[Landsberg] We seem to have a problem. Tim?

[Modise] Yes, we apologize for the break in our line, our contact with Cape Town. We have just lost it for now, but as soon as we pick up on that link we will be going back to the minister of finance, Mr. Chris Liebenberg. He is politically nonaligned, and that is an interesting one. The Constitution even had to change to accommodate his being appointed to cabinet. Mr. Mandela had to do a lot of horse-trading, persuasion... Let's go back to the minister of finance, Mr. Chris Liebenberg. Are you there, Mr. Minister?

[Liebenberg] Indeed, I am here, Tim.

[Modise] I've just mentioned the fact that even the Constitution had to be changed to get your appointment accepted by Parliament.

[Liebenberg] Yes. I must tell you that was good for the ego, and I certainly hope that I would be able to keep the portfolio of finances and managing the country's economy above party politics.

[Modise] Precisely because of that point, the appointment has been criticized for the fact that you do not have to answer to any political agendas when you put your budget together, and that therefore you sometimes are likely to be out of step with policies of the government of the day, in this instance, the government of national unity.

[Liebenberg] I would have thought that is a strength, actually, and I had my first experiences yesterday of being nonpolitically aligned, because I noticed that in the second reading of the budget debate that we went through yesterday afternoon, I was complimented and criticized by every party in the House. So I've got nobody watching my political back.

[Landsberg] From what you tell us, Minister, you are actually politically correct and not politically nonaligned. Minister, we have had much speculation about privatization. Are we seeing here a change in attitude, a change of heart in the whole government, more particularly the ANC members in the government, so we now see a move away from nationalization to privatization?

[Liebenberg] Well, I am not a member of the ANC, so I cannot comment on what they discuss in caucus meetings. I was involved in banking a year or two back when the nationalization of banking was a major agenda item. I was deeply involved in negotiations with the ANC at that point to try to show them how bad it would be for banks to be nationalized. So from where they stood at that time, yes, there has been a change, but I believe there also has been change on the part of the National Party and the Freedom Front, and the Inkatha Freedom Party. I believe everyone has moved closer to the middle of the road and to the realities of the day.

[Modise] What is the significance of the announcement that you made yesterday, as minister of finance, about raising loans overseas?

[Liebenberg] Tim, the significance is, first, that it is an indication that South Africa is now again welcomed back into the international markets. Second, it is the prerequisite legal steps that one has to go through before you actually place bonds with lenders. That is what we did yesterday. All the legal frameworks, all the necessary prerequisites, have now been met. We've crossed all the hurdles so that we can now, at any time that suits us, decide how much, where, and for what period we want to borrow internationally.

[Landsberg] Mr. Minister, you bombarded us, and the media bombarded us, with various figures as to what actually, if you resort to privatization, what that would mean, from 50 billion to as much as 500 billion rands. What is the real figure? How much will we actually generate from privatization?

[Liebenberg] Sorry, you're talking privatization, or the loan that we...

[Landsberg, interrupting] Privatization. Sorry to jump. Yes.

[Liebenberg] Well, if you look at the total assets that are government-owned, it is very substantial figures. Now obviously not all those things are going to be privatized. What we have actually announced in the six-point plan over the weekend, we—I mean, that was the deputy president—what has been announced is that government will consider, as one of the steps, the whole question of privatization. Now what I find interesting is that people that I would have thought would be very happy with that step are now criticizing us that we haven't done it already. People that I expected would not be that happy are criticizing that we've already done it.

[Landsberg] But surely, Minister, surely the reverse is also true: You still have factions within the government itself that would argue that no, we should not persist with privatization?

[Liebenberg] Oh, indeed. Although it is a government of national unity, I think in any party, on the National Party, on the Inkatha, and on the ANC side, I am sure there are different viewpoints as to who, what, and how it should be privatized, and then the critical issue, how should the proceeds be used? What I said yesterday, we want to address this thing in a professional and a mature manner.

[Modise] What would a professional and mature manner be, Mr. Liebenberg?

[Liebenberg] That we sit back and decide, first, what do we want to privatize, or rather, what do we want to sell; second, how do we want to use those proceeds, and in that context we will obviously consult with all the relevant constituents to make sure that from a government of national unity point of view, we take the correct steps.

[Landsberg] But this process is surely sometimes easier said than done, Mr. Minister. For example, Mossgas [Mossel Bay Gas Project] would seem to be in theory worth 20 billion-odd rands, whereas in fact there seems to be complications to sell such an industry, or such an asset. Wouldn't it be complicated to do that?

[Liebenberg] I don't think there are any assets that are not highly profitable that are going to be easy to sell, and obviously, as a manager in an organization, what one tends to do is to concentrate on those issues that don't produce the cash flows and the dividend flows and the profits that you would like to have. So obviously we're going to look at the loss-making and the lower-performing assets first of all, before selling the higher-performing assets.

[Modise] Let's go back to the foreign loans that you made an announcement on yesterday. You have actually counselled caution that South Africa should not borrow much more than it can afford to. You actually used the metaphor that it's like preparing to sit for exams every day.

[Liebenberg] Yes, Tim, that's as far as the country rating is concerned. But, I mean, let's look at an individual. Tim, you can walk into any bank in South Africa and raise a loan, but you don't do that. You only go and borrow money when you've got something to do and where you can maximize the use of those funds. I think so it should be for countries. [as heard] You only borrow when you have a need for it, when it can make an economic contribution, and when it can strengthen the overall position, not because it just happens to be available.

[Modise] Are we overborrowed at the moment? How much do we pay toward interest that we have borrowed on?

[Liebenberg] If you look at our total borrowing, it's 52 percent of our GDP, and that's a figure that we would not like to see rise much higher. We would like to stop borrowing before people stop lending to us. Now, as far as the interest is concerned, we are paying interest—and if I can make a comparison—the interest bill this year is about 10 to 11 times more than we spend on the RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program]. Now obviously we cannot continue with that on a sustainable basis, so it's an issue that needs to be addressed.

[Landsberg] Minister, let's stay on the debt—the figure of 221 billion rands. That, as you just said, is about 50 percent of our GDP. That's an astronomical amount.

[Liebenberg] Yes it is high, but by international standards, it is not yet in an area where one would start worrying, but it is high enough for South Africa, high enough for what we can afford. We need to concentrate on development and addressing the basic needs of the people in the country, which are so high that we cannot afford to be saddled with such a huge debt and such high interest rates.

[Landsberg] But with all due respect, Mr. Minister, I get the impression that while we are committed to the idea of bringing down our debt burden, the plans for doing so are in fact very vague. Am I correct?

[Liebenberg] I do not believe the plans are so vague. Look at the six-point plan we just unveiled. The whole basis for that plan is to reprioritize the government's expenditure and debt in such a manner that we will indeed have money available to do the things that are so necessary. And in that whole process, the interest paid is one of the major issues to be addressed.

[Modise] Well, I'm sure yours is a very difficult portfolio to handle. Not so long ago it was a question of, read my lips, I think, with your predecessor. A lot of South Africans did not anticipate that interest rates were going to rise, and it seems like the trend is going to continue. What are your comments on that? Are we likely to see any increase, any rise on the interest rates?

[Liebenberg] Well, Tim, if you look internationally, we live in a world where the interest rates are busy rising, simply because worldwide, economies are growing. Now we cannot be in an island of low interest in the whole sea of high interest rates or rising interest rates. As our economy grows down the line, it's a natural tendency that the interest rates will tend to bump up during that particular cycle.

[Modise] Ordinary people in South Africa feel that they are being squeezed dry by the government through income taxes and, of course, through interest rates as well, that now we don't have anywhere to turn to.

[Landsberg] Just on that point, Minister, it is said that our income tax is high compared with other countries. Would you agree?

[Liebenberg] Yes, I believe our income tax levels and our debt levels are at a level where one would not like to see any further increase. We have to try to bring our tax levels down, to give people more flexibility so they can save, to help rebuild the economy. One of the great concerns in this country is that people do not save enough and do not generate sufficient capital that can be used for investment. That is why we are saddled with huge loans.

[Landsberg] What about Value-Added Tax [VAT]? Surely there seems to be a battle between government on the one hand, who seems to be not in favor of reducing VAT on some items, whereas COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] and the labor movement seems to be in favor of that. How are you going to resolve that dispute?

[Liebenberg] Well, there is a conceptual and a psychological dispute between zero-rating and not zero-rating. The government has stated its views and COSATU has stated its views. I am not going to preempt what's going to come out of the whole discussion. We have appointed the Katz Commission. We are expecting their report by the end of November. I am told it's on time. They've had public hearings; they've discussed it with COSATU. Let's see what comes up, and the contents of the report will be transparent, and we'll then have an opportunity to discuss it.

[Modise] Let's go back to my question. Are we likely to see the rise of interest rates anytime soon?

[Liebenberg] We've just increased the interest rates over the past month. It's just gone up by 1 percent. Interest rates are market forces; it's dictated by issues that happen in the market place, and I am not going to make a prediction of what is likely to happen in the market place over the next month of two. What I can say, though: If we do not contain inflation in this country, if the interest rates internationally keep on rising, it will be very difficult for the governor of the Reserve Bank to contain interest rates.

[Modise] The criticism is that the government goes on rampant spending and calls on ordinary people to tighten their belts.

[Liebenberg] Well, I think the government has just set an example of belt-tightening, and when we announced it, people tell me it's symbolic.

[Modise] But there are examples we've seen recently when auditors presented their reports that former provincial governments and homeland governments actually were misappropriating public funds. Now people ask the question: Does it mean that we've got poor accounting systems within government and that government allows for this kind of rot to set in and to continue?

[Liebenberg] I don't want to comment on the government that's past. Let me comment on the government of the future. One of the aspects in the whole of the reprioritization that we are addressing is how to bring

discipline into the system, how to have control, how to have accountability, and we have a structure of more than just the minister of finance being responsible for fiscal discipline. I think Parliament, the cabinet, the standing committees, the select committees, everybody's got a role to play in making sure that we have a country that complies with the basic principles of fiscal and monetary discipline.

[Landsberg] Mr. Liebenberg, I get the impression that there are conditions linked to being nonaligned, as you say: Don't talk about the previous government, for example. But a big problem that is facing you at the moment is the civil service. On the one hand, there were the negotiations that determined that the civil service will never be reduced on the scale you have proposed—200,000. Over what period of time is that?

[Liebenberg] Did I propose that?

[Landsberg] Well, the six-point plan refers to 200,000.

[Liebenberg] No, the six-point plan does not mention 200,000. It says we have to address the issue of the civil service. I am from outside, and there are a few things I have noticed about the civil service. I find that all the decisions are delegated upward, and the senior people are working themselves to death. They arrive in the office very early, they stay until late, and the faster they run, the deeper they are sinking into the administration. I think we have to address the whole issue, the processes involved in government, in decision-making, in delegation of decision-making, to ensure that the decisions are taken at the correct levels. We have a situation where many of the senior civil service people cannot appoint people, they cannot dismiss them; yet we expect them to inspire people. They have no authority to decide on salaries or on what discipline has to be applied. One simply cannot manage things in that way. In order to make the changes, we need to sit down with the trade unions and discuss how we can structure things so we have a situation where the proper officials have the responsibility and are able to manage matters.

[Landsberg] But the question remains: What do we mean by restructuring? Does it mean dismissal and scaling down the civil service, or does it in fact mean the expansion of the civil service? And how are we going to cut down on costs? That is the question.

[Liebenberg] Well, restructuring means the same that we have to do in the rest of the country—to make people more productive. People cannot simply be dismissed. Their posts have been guaranteed and are underwritten by the new Constitution. What we can do is to look toward normal attrition, normal resignations. We could use that and stop creating new posts. Attrition and resignations make up between five and eight percent, and that is what we must use to ensure that where there are in fact too many people, those processes can be used to bring down numbers.

[Modise] Is the government on course in making it possible that the economic growth that has been targeted will be met? Are we in a position to say: Yes, we will be able to grow the economy by three, four, five percent?

[Liebenberg] Well, Tim, we have the potential to grow at those rates. Currently it would seem as though the economic growth rate for this particular year will be in the region of about 2.5 percent, which is significantly more than what we had last year, and certainly significantly more than we had for the past four years, where it was zero. We have the potential to grow significantly. We need to grow at four percent and higher to have a real impact on our unemployment.

[Landsberg] *One last question from me: Can you tell us what are the possible candidates to qualify for your privatization? SAA [South African Airways], Iscor [South African Iron and Steel Corporation], Eskom [Electricity Supply Commission], Mossgas? We hear very little about the possible candidates for privatization.*

[Liebenberg] *Chris, we must go back to the announcement we made. We said we would sit down and calmly look at what can be done, who qualifies, how the money must be used, and who we must consult with in the process. So it would be wrong of me at this point to make announcements as to possible candidates for privatization. What I can assure you, though, are those people who do not make their proper contribution, those who are a loss, and assets that do not make a profit—they will be first.*

[Modise] Well, we're just about to wrap our talk with you, Mr. Chris Liebenberg, but I'm sure this is a question you've been asked too often. What's going to happen with the finrand [financial rand]? I mean, the value of the commercial rand, finrand, is more or less the same, and I'm sure stockbrokers, before going to the JSE [Johannesburg Stock Exchange] this morning, would like to hear your comment on that.

[Liebenberg] Tim, this is a question that's been asked of me virtually daily ever since I've been in this particular job, and I keep on saying exactly the same thing. South Africa would love to be an investor-friendly country, and it's certainly one of our philosophies and policies and driving forces to get us there. Investor-friendly countries don't have exchange controls. From that point of view the finrand must go. That decision has been taken. What we must address though is that you don't take economic actions in an opportunistic, ad hoc, cavalier fashion. You do things in a planned, coordinated, and a comprehensive manner, and in that context, in line with our economic policy, we'll address the issue of the finrand. One morning you wake up, and the finrand will be gone.

[Modise] You can't speculate on time?

[Liebenberg] I don't speculate.

[Modise] Thank you very much for having been with us this morning.

[Liebenberg] Thank you, Tim.

Economists Expect Another Increase in Bank Rate

MB0611155794 Johannesburg WEEKEND STAR in English 5-6 Nov 94 p 17

[Report by Leigh Roberts]

[FPIS Transcribed Text] Batten down the hatches. Chances are there could be another rise in the Bank rate before Christmas—and that means higher interest rates all around.

Little more than a month after the last increase in Bank rate, home-owners could be facing yet another rise in their monthly mortgage repayments.

On the other hand, a higher Bank rate heralds a rise in the interest earned on bank deposits, which is good news for those who have retired and rely on this income for their daily bread.

Credit Guarantee senior economist Luke Doig says chances are 60 to 40 that the Bank rate (currently 13 percent) will rise a further one percentage point this year, rather than early next year.

The determining factor for an earlier increase will be the level of the country's import cover, a factor Doig believes was instrumental in the latest Bank rate rise on 30 September. Import cover is calculated as the value of the nation's forex reserves divided by the cost of imports.

Doig says import covers has, since August, been at particularly low levels—at close to one month's cover. What is worse, he adds, is that this ratio is based only on the cost of imported goods: it excludes the cost of imported services. Reserve Bank Governor Dr Chris Stals has often said he would like to see South Africa's import cover at three months' cover.

Adding weight to the case for a pre-Christmas increase, says Doig, is that there is a fair chance that imports will keep rising, exerting further pressure on forex reserves.

"The country needs retooling and new capital equipment to cater for growth in the economy, which means more imports," he says.

However, a rise in the Bank rate puts a damper on imports as well as on other spending.

What is more certain is that consumers can wave goodbye to relatively low interest rates, at least for the next few years. Doig predicts three more Bank rates increases in the next 18 months.

Southern Life economist Sandra Gordon is more cautious about a pre-Christmas Bank rate increase. "The possibility is there, but it's more likely to be realty next year," she says.

However, she stresses that this is under the current scenario. The crucial factor will be the pressure on the country's balance of payments, especially on the current account. These terms refer to the net foreign currency inflow to the country, with the current account referring to more short term imports and exports.

If the current account remains in deficit and is not offset by a big capital inflow, Stals might be forced to raise his Bank rate before next year, she says.

The Reserve Bank also views with concern the rising trend in the consumer price index (at 10.1 percent for September), says Gordon.

Indications are that inflation will continue to rise in the first half of next year.

She predicts two increases in the Bank rate in 1995.

House-hunters should bear in mind that mortgage bonds will become a lot more expensive. For instance, on a bond of R100,000 [rands] over 20 years at the current mortgage bond rate of 16.25 percent, you will pay R1,410 a month. At a rate of 19.25 percent you will pay R1,640.

As to whether Christmas cheer plays a part in any Reserve Bank decision to raise the Bank rate in December—there have been three such shocks in the past 15 years.

Economic Survey Notes Spending by Population Groups

MB0611153594 Johannesburg WEEKEND STAR in English 5-6 Nov 94 p 14

[FBIS Transcribed Text] White people were responsible for 53.5 percent of total household expenditure of R279.1 billion [rands] in South Africa last year. However, when it comes to expenditure in certain key categories, black people's spending power far outweighs that of their white compatriots.

A paper delivered at Bureau of Market Research's 34th annual general meeting at Unisa [University of South Africa], reported in the latest newsletter of Media & Market Research, found that households in the metropolitan areas outside of the former TBVC [Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei] states were responsible for about 60.6 percent of total expenditure last year.

By population group, white household spending of 53.5 percent of the total was considerably larger than that of black (34.9 percent), coloured (7.7 percent) or Indian (3.9 percent) households.

Black people, the survey found, were responsible for 92.5 percent of total expenditure on fuel and lights, while 84.7 percent of the total R4.7 billion spent on support of relatives and 79.5 percent of the R911 million spent on dry-cleaning and laundry was done by blacks.

Expenditure by black people also exceeds that of the other three population groups in respect of alcoholic beverages (58.4 percent); washing materials, insecticides and disinfectants (56.8 percent); clothing, footwear and accessories (55.7 percent); cigarettes and tobacco (55.5 percent); and food (50.7 percent).

The survey notes that household expenditure in South Africa has risen from R19.2 billion to R279.1 billion over the past 18 years. This represents an increase of 15.9 percent a year.

In terms of regional, the PWV, [Pretoria Witwatersrand, Vereeniging], and the Witwatersrand in particular, far outscored the Cape Peninsula and the Durban area.

The measure of regional economic importance and growth of the various magisterial districts was based on employment numbers, populations figures, total income and employees' remuneration.

The combined economic and growth index accorded the PWV area a share of 32.9 percent in the national total and the Witwatersrand area alone 21.6 percent. Johannesburg, still by far the most important district in South Africa, scored 8.8 percent, followed by Pretoria with 5.7 percent. The Cape Peninsula and Durban scored 10.4 percent and 10.1 percent respectively.

The survey found that food was by far the most important retail item in South Africa last year, accounting for a third of all retail sales.

Other major items included clothing (14.9 percent), pharmaceuticals (7.8 percent) household appliances (7.2 percent), and beverages and tobacco (7 percent).

Development Bank Chief Resigns

MB0411185894 Johannesburg NEW NATION in English 4 Nov 94 p 3

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA) chief executive Andre la Grange yesterday announced his resignation from the institution citing an "exciting offer" from a private financial institution as his reason for opting out.

But staff at the bank attributed the move to increasing pressure that was being brought to bear on La Grange following allegations that the bank was determined to undermine reconstruction and development efforts of the new government.

La Grange made the announcement in a personal brief to the bank's staff yesterday. His resignation is effective from the end of February next year.

La Grange's resignation comes just months after the DBSA was rocked by a series of embarrassing exposés, which pointed to attempts by some of its most senior personnel to sabotage the Reconstruction and Development Programme [RDP].

Recently, there were also suggestions that the bank had violated an undertaking it made to Jay Naidoo's RDP Ministry that it would put all development projects on ice and would not proceed with any project until it had consulted the ministry.

Although La Grange managed to keep clear of the allegations made against the bank, he became increasingly unpopular among the bank's black staff, who yesterday welcomed his resignation.

'Tax Specialist' Analyzes ANC Tax Plan

MB0411181494 Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English 4-10 Nov 94 p B2

[Report by "tax specialist" Ronald Rankine, a "tax partner" for KPMG Aiken & Peat]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The tax system the ANC aims for should be transparent and fair, cost efficient, efficient, equitable and support economic growth. The submission by the ANC to the Commission of Inquiry into the Tax System restricts its comments to general ANC fiscal policy, except for those matters considered to require immediate attention, and the policy is based on three pillars. These are sound macro-economic management, a comprehensive approach and a contract of fiscal responsibility.

The first pillar rests squarely on restricting spiralling government expenditure. The second ensures that economic, revenue raising, borrowing, user charge, pricing and tariff policies are considered in relation to each other. It is suggested that, in broadening the tax base, consideration should be given to the introduction of property or wealth taxes, capital gains tax, capital transfer tax, land taxes and user fees.

The third pillar is for the government to pledge itself to a "contract" of fiscal responsibility. The government must promote trust in its administration and this entails eliminating wastage and controlling and redirecting government expenditure towards priority projects.

Taxpayers are expected to pay all the tax due under the law--no more, but no less. Non-payment and evasion is also to be addressed by stiffening the powers of revenue collectors and by making funds available for the employment of qualified personnel.

It is suggested that there is a need for some upfront parameters and commitments. An example is the tax to gross domestic product target ratio, which should not increase significantly and could perhaps even reduce in the medium term. These may provide a measure of confidence during the period of reform.

Points of reassurance for the taxpayer are that no new taxes will be introduced retrospectively; capital gains tax, if introduced, will not affect prior accruals; and

existing holders of retirement annuities, pensions and endowments will not be prejudiced by any new measures.

The present tax commission should restrict its activities to urgent issues: married women, constitutional matters, tax administration, tax incentives and harmonisation following reintegration of the Bantustans. In addition, the tax system should be non-discriminatory in relation to either gender or race, single or double-earning households and married or unmarried taxpayers.

The ANC submission criticises the existing system of incentives, which it contends allows certain groups "to enjoy privileges out of keeping with the ANC's policy of targeting the poor rather than the rich." This sounds rather discriminatory and might have been better phrased.

A preference for a system of subsidies over incentives is expressed; incentives only being acceptable where subsidies won't work, or where required to stimulate further investment and training. Bearing in mind South Africa's acknowledged poor level of productivity and the penchant for "handouts," this may not be a very prudent substitution.

The proposal that child rebates and other non-targeted tax deductions for the wealthy be abolished seems to be discriminatory in reverse and in contravention of the constitution.

A review of zero-rating for VAT [value-added tax] purposes is recommended. It may at long last be conceded that this is not necessarily the most effective way to provide relief for the poor.

The ANC is committed to stimulating the creation of small and micro-businesses. A simpler form of tax is favoured, possibly with some form of incentive to bring these businesses into the tax net. A novel suggestion made is that on registering as taxpayers, they would be issued with a card entitling them to better access to small business "support mechanisms." What those mechanisms represent is not clear.

In the case of personal income tax, the ANC believes there is a strong case for reducing the number of tax brackets and adjusting these frequently to minimise fiscal drag.

The move to lower corporate tax rates to bring these in line with other major industrial countries is endorsed. The introduction of secondary tax on companies (STC), while acknowledged as having contributed to the lower corporate tax rate, is seen as an annoyance to overseas investors.

The submission recommends that some simpler and more equitable basis of taxing dividends be found. Possibly some variation on the imputation system adopted in the United Kingdom might provide a solution.

While the constitution allows the provinces to levy surcharges on nationally collected taxes, the ANC believes provincial taxes must not be imposed in contravention of national tax policy.

The document is emphatic that tax should be complemented by a clear policy on user charge and pricing policy for utilities like electricity and water, which has a direct impact on the fiscal base of lower tiers of government.

The ANC also supports the introduction of national pension and health insurance schemes. Nevertheless, it sees the private sector continuing to play a key role in the provision of adequate pension cover and health cover.

Defense Minister Joe Modise Says Not 'Magician'

MB0411142194 Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English 4-10 Nov 94 p 4

[Report on interview with Defense Minister Joe Modise by Gaye Davis; place and date not given]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Defence Minister Joe Modise would tell those calling for his resignation that he sympathises with their position. "But I think what must be understood is that the minister is a human being not a magician," he said in an interview this week. "Others need to be patient and helpful to their ministers. We knew we were coming into a struggle here. Change has really only been at the top. There are black people in parliament, but the situation is still the same on the factory floor, in the hospital ward and in the police.

People see only the negative side. There have been enormous changes within the defence force. Who would have thought, six months ago, that we would have black generals in the defence force? And there have been other appointments down the ranks—we have colonels and brigadiers .."

Modise's dark suits, lugubrious expression and tendency to answer in the negative when asked if he'd like to comment during debates have earned him the nickname "Dr. No" in parliamentary circles. He appears to mistrust the press, and dismissed as "misinformation and lies" reports this week quoting "reliable sources" saying he gave thousands of MK [Umkhonto We Sizwe, Spear of the Nation—ANC military wing] deserters from Wallmannstal permission to "go shopping. The reports came as no surprise to him: "It is always so."

The implication was that by intervening, Modise—already under attack for appearing to treat MK dissidents with kid gloves—was effectively countermanding the orders of the officer commanding the base and as such was way out of line. This week he said: "As a minister I have no right to give orders there." He was firm that "there is no democracy in a defence force" and that, whatever troops' grievances were or however legitimate, discipline was a paramount requirement.

Modise has one of the most taxing—and unforgiving—portfolios in the government. The former MK commander admits that the process of integrating former guerrillas and homeland forces into a single national defence force has "not been smooth sailing; we have had to fight every step of the way."

An ANC parliamentarian commented: "He has to walk a tightrope. He has to ensure that the SANDF [South African National Defense Force] follows his lead and, at the same time, assure MK that he is there, fighting for them. It is very difficult. What confidence do the old SADF people have in him, a former MK commander and a black man? Under the circumstances he is doing well." Modise is frank about attempts by white die-hard officers to frustrate or even sabotage the process. In his view, the failure of the National Peacekeeping Force was a result of this attitude: "There are people within the SANDF with their own agendas. Some officers were very vociferous against MK coming in at all, saying they were untrained, unfit.

"There are not many (in the former SADF) in favour of the process, and some elements go out of their way to frustrate the process and make the lives of people miserable to force them out. But that is no excuse for a soldier to behave with a lack of discipline."

But, he said, at the same time "there are some former SADF officers who are very genuine about the integration process, who are working very hard to see that it succeeds."

One of his biggest battles was getting white officers to agree to former MK commanders receiving high rank without the necessary qualifications. "The white officers were going to see the MK cadres slog away for years before they came in."

And yet, he said, there were MK commanders who had dealt with situations that seasoned former SADF officers would not have coped with, such as many troops and little material support. "We told them our people could catch up in terms of training. What they had to acknowledge was a man's potential."

Getting former MK commanders ranked was crucial to boost the cadres' confidence in the process. But is debatable whether it has adequately dealt with unhappiness in MK ranks that what is happening is in fact their absorption into the SADF.

A former MK commander told the *WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN*: "MK members feel alienated and vulnerable, frustrated and betrayed—and this explodes into calls for (Modise's) resignation. Integration started immediately after the elections and the same problems—with salaries, ranks and conditions—with salaries, ranks and conditions—are still being experienced. He should flex his muscles and get rid of officers implicated in these delays, those who are not following up instructions."

Modise acknowledges the flak hitting him from all directions: "There is unhappiness on all sides—even on the streets, among the public. They are saying, what kind of soldiers are these who are defying the president? One must not be too one-sided. There are some expectations that are unreal. Yes, we are unhappy about delays, there have been lots of mistakes—it's been a case of trial and error."

But this was no excuse for soldiers to display a lack of discipline, he said. "We must be very realistic. All military institutions are autocratic. There is no democracy in a defence force. The Chinese tried it and failed. People will have to learn eventually how a military system operates. If we shift on that, we can do away with the defence force."

South African Press Review for 4 Nov

MB0411132094

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Government Crime Prevention 'Floundering'—"It is the murder and mayhem in day-to-day life that is forcing people to emigrate, creating alarm and insecurity in the suburbs, and stopping foreign investors from putting their money into this country," declares a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 3 November. The paper has "warned that South Africa can descend into anarchy," as have the police warned, so "Is there anyone in the government who is listening and will act dynamically to save us from this grim fate? At the moment, the government is floundering in many areas—and crime prevention is suffering more than most."

THE STAR

Judicial Service Commission 'Retrogressive'—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 4 November in a page 12 editorial notes that the Judicial Service Commission, JSC, has decided that interviews with short-listed candidates for the Supreme Court will be conducted behind closed doors. This decision is "regrettable and retrogressive: regrettable because it belies the promise of 'transparency' in post-apartheid South Africa; retrogressive because it negates the advance made by the open hearings conducted by the JSC last month for its final list of 10 nominees for seats on the Constitutional Court."

SOWETAN

Paper Advises Truth Commission Caution—"While it is proper for the Government to rush through the Truth Commission, we would advise extreme caution in something that may become a matter of historic precedent," points out a page 16 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 4 November. "As long as there is no witch-hunt and as long as no one is made to feel

unnecessarily culpable about what happened, the ugly things from the past have to be aired, if only as an exercise in catharsis."

Mandela's Health—"The speculation that there might be something wrong with President Mandela's health are quickly laid to rest as he gets into stride," declares a second editorial on the same page. "The fact is that Mandela is no young man. Men his age usually go for medical and other forms of treatment. We only hope he will quickly complete his busy schedule and enjoy a peaceful and restful festive season with his family and friends."

BUSINESS DAY

Call for Public Interviews of Prospective Judges—A page 12 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 4 November notes that the Judicial Service Commission has decided that prospective judges will not be subjected to public interviews. "There are arguments against putting judicial candidates through a public wringer. Equally, there are valid arguments that those who cannot survive a public examination do not deserve elevation to the Supreme Court, and that public hearings will help establish widespread confidence in the judiciary."

WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN

Call for Mandela Cabinet Reshuffle—Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English for 4-10 November in its page 30 editorial notes that it is time for President Mandela to "put out to pasture" the incompetent ministers in his cabinet. The editorial refers to Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu who because of his "health" is unlikely to pre-empt a backlash from dissatisfied black students from whom "shocking" examination results are "inevitable." Another area of concern is defense, where Minister Joe Modise "has barely kept the lid on the pot—and then only by having Mandela and himself sit on it." "A timely cabinet reshuffle would also give Mandela the chance to rectify one of the [words indistinct].

MK Soldiers Must Recognize Mandela's Authority—Johannesburg NEW NATION in English on 4 November in a page 8 editorial cannot condemn "strongly enough" the recent desertion by former ANC Spear of the Nation cadres, MK, from the Wallmannstal military base. President Mandela undertook two weeks ago to address the grievances of the soldiers, but "surely, this cannot be considered sufficient time to meaningfully attend to the problems, many of which have much to do with the deeply ingrained racism which pervades every level of the old South African Defence Force. And the disregard among senior SANDF [South African National Defense Force] officers for the plight of the former MK soldiers derives directly from this racism." "Cleansing" the defense force of this racism "will take much time and effort." Nevertheless, the soldiers have to "recognise the political authority of the President—or find another job."

Because without political discipline, which derives from accepting political leadership, an army is no more than a horde of bandits. And we have seen the potential for senseless destruction banditry harbours."

BEELD

MK Desertions 'Inexcusable'—Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 2 November in a page 12 editorial finds the "large-scale desertions by MK soldiers from Wallmannstal military base on Monday is inexcusable." "It is possible that their grievances are justified. But after they deserted the last time, President Nelson Mandela personally gave them the assurance that their grievances would be attended to—provided that they returned to base. With hindsight, it was probably a mistake to handle them so gently. Soldiers worth their salt know that orders in a defense force simply have to be obeyed." "There are reports that the majority of the new deserters are not real MK members, that they were either only trained at weekends by MK, or that they were involved in the so-called self-defense units of the ANC. If that is the case, one can understand why they prefer to pull out after the first taste of the life of a real soldier." Whatever the case may be, concludes BEELD, "the costly and unhappy experience South Africa had with the peace force cannot be repeated in the new defense force."

Uncertainty on Education Worrying—A second editorial on the same page urges "clarity on the future of education in the country" since the present uncertainty is "demoralizing." That applies equally to the piece-meal manner in which information is released. The latest example of the confusion relates to state assistance to schools and the uncertainty among officials about their future. "Naturally, "any corrective action must mean either that white parents must be satisfied with a possible drop in educational standards, which they do not want, or that they must themselves generate funds so that their children can continue to receive what they have received up to now. The latter is precisely what the Model C school system tries to achieve—to ease the financial burden on the state by moving it to the parents and the community. But now there is talk that the government wants to abolish the Model C system. Why this contradiction?"

South African Press Review for 6 Nov

MB0611202194

[Editorial Report]

WEEKEND STAR

SABC Receives 'Smooth Ride' at Hearings—"This week's Independent Broadcasting Authority [IBA] hearings on the future and funding of public broadcasting had the all-too-familiar cloud of government hanging over it," begins the page-12 editorial of Johannesburg WEEKEND STAR in English on 5-6 November. The editorial contends the South African Broadcasting Corporation, SABC, received a "smooth ride" in the hearing

and was not asked tough questions about the financial implications of its proposal for public broadcasting. "The essential question is: What's to be done if the State declines to help pay for a service which one of its own corporations deems to be an essential component of democracy." The editorial advocates that users pay for public broadcasting, with advertising revenue relied upon "only to remedy shortfalls." "The level of service required from the SABC should be determined by the amount of money the Government, and by definition the public, would be willing to spend on public service broadcasting."

SUNDAY TIMES

Rising Crime Rate Threatens Nation—Fragile national institutions, "hopelessly incompetent" police, and ineffective courts are both the architects and the victims of the crisis of rising crime in South Africa, according to the page-24 editorial in the Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 6 November. However, "the real explanation for the lawlessness and avarice of society" lies with apartheid and the "grotesque appropriation of wealth and privilege by government and its allies," the editorial states. "Theft came to be regarded by many people as not only acceptable, but normal, an esoteric form of redistribution in which the have-nots take from the haves." Criminality is so deeply entrenched, the editorial says, the country "stands on the brink of becoming a gangster nation." Respect for the legal system must be restored, with the ANC government taking the lead in this regard. "Then the institutions must be strengthened. That can only be done through good laws rigorously executed by honest public servants."

South African Press Review for 7 Nov

MB0711120294

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Affirmative Action—The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 4 November notes that Public Enterprises Minister Stella Sigcau, is "appointing more people of colour" to the boards of parastatals such as Transnet and the South African Forestry Company Ltd. "This kind of affirmative action was also to be expected, though one may question whether some of the appointees are as qualified for directorships as the people they replace." Minister Sigcau "is determined to make far-reaching and speedy changes irrespective of what anyone might think." But she, and other ministers, "had better watch out that they don't make changes simply for the sake of change, and that they do not give the impression they are motivated by purely racial considerations."

THE STAR

Assassination 'Too Late' for Change—A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 7 November

comments on the assassination of former Dutch Reformed Church, DRC, moderator, Professor Johan Heyns, saying "it is much too late for desperate acts of barbarity to reverse the course of the country's history. Our political transformation is so profound and deep-seated that it is no longer dependent on any individual, no matter how prominent or influential." "Heyns's role in the drafting of the 1986 Church and Society document guarantees him a place in the history of apartheid's demise, because he recognised that the doctrine was biblically indefensible. His later confession 'with humility and sorrow' of his church's part in the introduction and legitimisation of apartheid bolstered his honourable image."

SOWETAN

Church Leader Assassination—Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 7 November in a page 8 editorial also comments on the assassination of church leader Professor Johan Heyns, noting his "contribution to the changes and peace in South Africa and his courageous leadership." The right-wing reportedly tried to "wrest control" of the Dutch Reformed Church, but "nothing symbolised their failure and Heyns's triumph more eloquently than the rapturous reception given to President Nelson Mandela at the DRC's synod last month. Ironically, it could also have been the motive for Heyns's assassination."

BUSINESS DAY

Education 'Dilemma'—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 7 November in a page 10 editorial refers to the "education dilemma" the country is in. Organizations such as the National Education Coordinating Committee are concerned that the "'disadvantaged population' will be told not to expect too much too soon, while currently privileged parents fear the redistribution of funds and facilities will jeopardise the quality of education." National director of the Independent Schools Council, Mark Henning, believes "priority should be given to meeting the challenges of youth unemployment by providing meaningful skills in schools." Restructuring education is a "long-term process and the results will not be seen for many years to come." Meanwhile, "only seven in 100 of this year's school leavers can expect to find jobs."

BEELD

Police Third Force Activities Probed—"Information that members of the security forces may have been involved in Third Force activities affect the police at a very unfavorable time," claims an editorial on page 10 of Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans of 3 November.

"Nevertheless these claims must be thoroughly probed, and with all possible haste. According to the secret report in which this information appears, things are going badly for the police: their members' morale is low, crime is on the increase, there is a threat of anarchy, and there is too little money to maintain the police service. In the circumstances, the temptation must have been great for the police to try to suppress any possible involvement of some of their members or former members in a third force, as it would further mar their image and make their task more difficult. That they chose the honorable path is to their credit."

Increasing Crime—"The shocking figures on increasing criminality in South Africa," says a second editorial on the same page of BEELD, "confirms what many people have long been saying: that something drastic must be done to stop criminals, or South Africa is on the road to anarchy. How is it possible to cut the police budget by 4 percent when serious crime has risen by 4 percent and the police force, already too small, is being overworked and underpaid? How can ordinary citizens expect to have confidence in a security force which cannot protect them? How can foreign investors be expected to invest in this country under such circumstances? How can criminals be scared off when the death penalty is no longer applied and bail is becoming easier? Sixty-two percent of people prosecuted up to September this year have had charges against them dropped, and 6,289 people suspected of serious crimes have jumped bail. If there is one area where affirmative action is urgently needed, it is in the police force. Law and order is the basis of all peaceful reform. Why is it not given the priority it deserves?"

Criticism of Intelligence Spying on RDP Implementation—"Some of the most bitter experiences during the apartheid era were caused by the intelligence instruments of the state becoming involved where they ought never to have been involved," says a third editorial on the same page. "The fact is that political goals were involved, and that such operations became part of the problem, rather than the solution. If plans that the proposed new National Intelligence Agency should spy on the implementation of the RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program] become a reality, the mistakes of the past will be repeated. Just as spies were unable to prop up the apartheid regime, so too espionage by the state will not make the RDP a success. The way to make the RDP succeed is to get the cooperation of all those concerned through pure political leadership and motivation. No one denies the government the right to monitor the implementation of the RDP. Just as with other important state functions, there must be supervision and control. That must take place openly, and without government spies."

Angola**Deputy Foreign Minister on Army Advance Toward Huambo**

LD0311224694 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 3 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Angola: the fighting is continuing, particularly in the Soyo region. UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] claims to have halted the regular army's advance on Huambo. As you know, UNITA has threatened not to sign the Lusaka draft agreement on 15 November if the offensive against Huambo continues. Angolan Deputy Foreign Minister Joao Miranda reacted today on behalf of the Angolan Government:

[Begin recording] [Miranda] The country is still at war. Huambo is a part of the national territory, like any other area where UNITA can be found. I do not know precisely how far the government troops have advanced, but I believe that the cease-fire will not take effect until after the signing of the Lusaka agreement. At the present time one cannot speak of a cease-fire.

[Correspondent Antonio Garcia] But the government can halt its offensive, which is advancing toward Huambo.

[Miranda] There is no government offensive in the direction of any part of the territory as such. There are natural actions [as heard] which stem from the fact that Angola is still at war, so one cannot speak of an offensive in the direction of Huambo or anywhere in particular. [end recording]

UNITA Admits Fall of Caala, Near Huambo

LD0411131394 Lisbon RTP Internacional Television in Portuguese 1200 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Here is some late news from Angola: UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has confirmed the fall of Caala, 20 km from Huambo. We understand that the UNITA generals are all at the front line and have expressed their resolve to do the utmost to prevent the fall of Huambo, even if the war lasts another 110 [as heard] days. Huambo is becoming a deserted city, with its population fleeing and hiding out in bomb shelters. The sound of shelling could be heard in the city throughout the morning.

UNITA UN Representative Comments on Government Offensive

MB0411163894 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 4 Nov 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] With an Angola peace and cease-fire deal initialed in Lusaka and pens poised for a final signing next week, the UNITA [National Union for

the Total Independence of Angola] rebels are crying foul again. They say that the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] Government is mounting big last-minute offensives. They claimed Cacolo in the eastern province of Lunda Sul, the old UNITA headquarters at Jamba in the southeast, and the current headquarters city of Huambo are being targeted. UNITA claims there is heavy fighting at Huambo with MPLA forces advancing on the city. On the line to New York, Robin White asked UNITA's United Nations representative Marcos Samondo what his information was about the fighting at Huambo.

[Begin recording] [Samondo] Well, the information from Huambo is that the government is putting up a very, very strong pressure and obviously advancing toward Hambo to try to capture the city. UNITA people are trying to do everything they can to stop them.

[White] Might you lose the city?

[Samondo] We don't know at this point. We hope not, but the morale of troops is higher on the UNITA side.

[White] Where is Jonas Savimbi at the moment? Is he in Huambo or has he left?

[Samondo] No, Jonas Savimbi is in Huambo and he is coordinating the military and also the political activity in the city.

[White] Why do you think the MPLA has launched this attack at this moment? Any idea?

[Samondo] I think it is greedy. It is really greedy and also hypocrisy from them, from their side, because all the time they have been saying that they want a peace accord. Now at the time when all the documents in Lusaka have been initialed—we took about a year to negotiate those documents—there is no need whatsoever for the government to launch an attack against Huambo because, after all, the government have got everything they wanted. Even the governorship of Huambo will be in the hands of the government. Why at the last minute, the same day when the accord was initialed in Lusaka, the government sent 20,000 troops with a heavy artillery barrage trying to kill everybody in Huambo and to try to [words indistinct] the leadership which is stationed in Huambo at this moment.

[White] Maybe they don't believe you when you say that you want peace?

[Samondo] Well, I mean why would they assume that? Now, for example, they are going with guns. Would that really bring peace to Angola? So they are setting the clock backward. Now they try to dislodge UNITA leadership from Huambo. So why did they spend the whole time in Lusaka negotiating when the government today has some other intentions? What I am very concerned about is the silence from the international community. So far, the UN have not said a word to condemn the attitude of the MPLA, but if it was UNITA attacking even a small

village, tomorrow there will be a UN Security Council resolution; everybody will be screaming. My office will be full of faxes, you know, trying to call UNITA to its senses. Now, that the government is really showing that they don't respect international law, nobody is saying anything and that is a major concern to us.

[White] Perhaps that is because nobody likes you?

[Samondo] Well, it is not a matter of liking or not. I think we have to safeguard the Lusaka Accord at this point. Now that the document is on the table, I don't think anybody should go out and start shooting like in a Western. This is not a cowboy fight. [end recording]

UNITA Radio Commentary Notes MPLA Attack on Jamba

MB0411075794 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 4 Nov 94

[Station commentary: "We shall not accept any cemetery peace"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Lusaka Protocol was initialed on 31 October, about three days ago, which is the forerunner of the formal accord [words indistinct] its implementation. We have plenty of reasons to be skeptical and doubtful about initialing the Lusaka Protocol before it is due for implementation.

We do not see that the creole chieftains of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party [MPLA-PT] will be either serious or in good faith about implementing it. They are nationless types who (?live off) the generous, noble, and [word indistinct] people of Angola. Their sole goal is war [words indistinct] in modern times [words indistinct] destruction and death. They are incapable of being serious even once. They go from lie to lie and they are misleading everyone, both the Angolan people they claim to defend and the international community.

What is even more regrettable is that people such as [Portuguese Foreign Affairs Minister] Durao Barroso—who have been corrupted by U.S. dollars—[words indistinct] making stupid things such as those he made only yesterday in the presence of the foreign affairs minister. [sentence as heard] Durao Barroso knows full well what is going on in Angola. He is one of those responsible, but he throws [Portuguese Ambassador to Angola] Rocha Paris to the fore, to make certain remarks. They are both nostalgic for Portuguese colonialism. They would do better to shut up and decline to take any further part in anything that may have to do with Angola—yes, Angola, the real Angola, the heroic fatherland of noble and generous sons who give of their best every day. They even give up their lives to defend this fantastic land [words indistinct] our ancestors who never allowed [words indistinct] colonization. Their descendants are fighting neocolonialism.

It is a [words indistinct] which guides us, because we know what we are, where we come from, and where we are going. The nostalgic lot in the MPLA-PT, with top chieftain Jose Eduardo dos Santos—of Sao Tomean origin—at the head, and foreman [Angolan Armed Forces chief of General Staff] Joao de Matos have over the last few days done their best to try and (?defraud) the people who believe in the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. They are looking for military ways to make the Angolan people psychologically weaker—if they manage to survive the MPLA-PT's bombs and shells.

They are clearly mistaken, though. We know what it is to fight. We know the nuances of fighting [words indistinct] our opponents, who are as sly and deceitful as only orthodox communists can be. They have launched a general offensive against all areas controlled by UNITA. Their aim has been to try and destroy UNITA. They have not yet learned the lessons provided by history. Our proud and generous people are no longer afraid of such offensives.

Let the date of 3 November go down in history. At about 1015 [0915 GMT], two MiG-23 aircraft flew in the direction of Jamba to destroy the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel [Vorgan]. They did so on orders from Jose Eduardo dos Santos, that execrable Sao Tomean and they were piloted with ease [words indistinct] in the process. They ended up bombing the hospital [words indistinct] those pilots dropped compression and phosphorus bombs.

We were already expecting those birds of death because the number of reported reconnaissance flights had increased considerably throughout southeastern Angola over the last few days. Those flights were piloted by South African mercenaries. Meanwhile, the media in the pay of the [word indistinct] and bloodthirsty Luanda government proceeded to praise, in its traditionally relaxed manner, the signing of the Lusaka Protocol. What military targets could the MPLA-PT warmoners hope to hit in Jamba?

They—the bloodthirsty creole chieftains of the MPLA-PT and their dogs of war, such as Joao de Matos and the pilots—have told, and are still telling, the whole world that Jamba is a [word indistinct] after all, they send MiG and reconnaissance aircraft from Lubango Air Base, with stopovers at Menongue on the way back, with orders to kill the people of Jamba which shows that the MPLA-PT's top chieftain, that Sao Tomean Jose Eduardo dos Santos, continues to order operations to kill and spread grief among the real people of Angola, even after the signing of the Lusaka Protocol. Such ieeches and birds of prey must be run out of our country. We, in UNITA, shall never accept the cemetery peace that such nationless people have in mind for us. We shall take up arms to fight such cemetery peace.

We want and we shall strive toward just and dignified peace.

Long live the brave Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola!

We shall triumph with UNITA and Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi!

Government Forces Reportedly Control Huambo Airport

MB0511184394 Maputo TVM Television Network in Portuguese 1800 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The military situation in Angola has unexpectedly worsened in the past 72 hours. [passage omitted] Latest reports from Luanda say government forces have already gained control of the airport at Huambo. The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola forces are in absolute control and could take the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola headquarters by storm at any moment.

MPLA Official Discusses Situation in Huambo, Cease-Fire

MB0511204594 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] At a special session in Luanda today, the Central Committee of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA], urged the government to sign the Lusaka peace accord. The committee discussed the political situation in Angola in light of the initialing of the Lusaka Protocol. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] The international media has been commenting about the city of Huambo, saying that government forces intend to storm it over the next few days. Would you like to comment?

[MPLA Information Secretary Joao Lourenco] My comment is that the government is violating absolutely nothing. The government is not invading any foreign territory; it is not even violating the Lusaka Protocol. The documents initialed by the heads of delegations on 31 October do not make any reference to a cease-fire in a specific area of Angola. The documents speak of a general cease-fire that will be implemented throughout the country 17 days after the accord was initialed. We would like to give assurances that on that day, and as long as the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola agrees to sign the Lusaka Protocol 15 days after it was initialed, the Government of the Republic of Angola will strictly adhere to the cease-fire that will come into effect two days after the signing of the accord.

[Correspondent] Are you suggesting that government forces can enter the city of Huambo because there is no cease-fire?

[Lourenco] What I am suggesting is that one cannot say that war is taking place in province X or in district Y. War is taking place throughout Angola, from Cabinda to

Cunene. In principle, this war will last until 17 days after the Lusaka Protocol was initialed. [end recording]

MPLA Central Committee Notes 'Worrisome' UNITA Operations

MB0611141694 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] Central Committee met in the Angolan capital yesterday under the chairmanship of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. The meeting found the Lusaka Protocol to be a valid tool for the restoration of peace and national reconciliation in Angola. In view of that, the MPLA Central Committee recommended to the National Assembly and the government to make every effort to ensure that the document is formally signed on the scheduled date.

The MPLA reaffirmed its belief that the Angolan Government will abide by the cease-fire after the formal signing of the accord. However, the ruling party in Angola described as worrisome the military operations that the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] has been carrying out throughout Angolan territory to secure advantageous positions before the accord is signed. Nevertheless, it was with satisfaction that the MPLA Central Committee recognized the commitment of and efforts made by the Angolan Armed Forces, the Angolan Police, and the Civilian Defense Force to turn the situation around, thereby allowing the government to gain control over Angolan territory.

The MPLA Central Committee also praised the soldiers who defended the city of Kuito and the Angolan Government team to the Lusaka peace talks, as well as all other parties involved in the peace process. [passage omitted]

The MPLA Central Committee described the country's immediate future as a decisive time to define a situation that will permit the protection of the interests made clear by the citizens at the polls. The MPLA Central Committee called on its members to implement the party's and the state's decisions by mobilizing the citizens and facing future challenges with perseverance and courage.

Aid Officials Say Government Troops 20 Km From Huambo

MB0611164094 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1500 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Relief agency officials say about 50 foreign aid workers are trapped in the central Angolan city of Huambo, a stronghold of the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] movement, after government forces captured the nearby town of Cahala.

The officials said government troops were now less than 20 kilometers from Huambo, where the aid workers had

been given sanctuary in a Red Cross compound. One of the officials said there had been a limited amount of looting in Huambo. He said however that the aid workers in the compound were well and in good spirits. The compound had space in bunkers for all the foreigners in Huambo and food stocks for a long time.

The battle for control of Huambo comes a week before the Angolan Government and UNITA are due to conclude a United Nations brokered cease-fire.

UNITA Downs Government MiG Over Huambo

LD0611164694 Lisbon Radio Renascenca in Portuguese to Europe 1600 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The fighting continues in Angola around Huambo. According to reports on the ground, a government air force MiG plane was shot down by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] forces this morning. According to journalists in Huambo, there was great jubilation among UNITA supporters and soldiers following the shooting down of one of the two MiG planes which overflew the city this morning. The pilot of the downed plane managed to eject and came down among UNITA troops.

UNITA Reportedly Downs MPLA Plane Over Huambo

MB0611180394 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Portugal's TSF Radio has reported that the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] today shot down a MiG aircraft of the government Air Force. The source said the aircraft was overflying the city of Huambo with another aircraft that managed to escape.

The Angolan Government Armed Forces are now reported to be about 15 km from the city of Huambo. Reports say the city is being rocked by explosions and submachine gunfire.

In another development, the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] has said that the government offensive on Huambo does not contravene the peace protocol initialed in the Zambian capital a few days ago. The MPLA information secretary also said that the war will continue for 17 days after the day the Lusaka protocol was initialed.

President Reportedly Promises To Pull Back Troops

MB0611185894 Maputo TVM Television Network in Portuguese 1800 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] War has reigned in Angola. This is a source of concern to the international community, because the government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] signed a peace protocol in Lusaka a week ago.

After the Lusaka protocol was initialed, the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] launched an offensive against Huambo, Jamba, and Soyo. [passage omitted]

The UN Security Council met in New York yesterday to discuss Angola and asked Angolan Head of State Jose Eduardo dos Santos to order the government forces to stop their offensive. [passage omitted]

U.S. President Bill Clinton made a similar call on the Angolan head of state only a few hours later. Clinton noted it is high time hostilities stop and to promote peace and reconciliation.

The FAA forces have been hitting Huambo hard since the Lusaka protocol was initialed, and people are fleeing in disorder. [passage omitted]

Unconfirmed reports by independent sources say the FAA forces occupied Huambo airport yesterday and are now moving toward the center of the city. The FAA forces are also attacking Jamba and Soyo. UNITA says it halted the FAA forces 30 km from Huambo. [passage omitted]

The latest reports from the Angolan capital say President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has met with the U.S. ambassador to discuss the latest developments in the country. The Angolan president promised he would order his forces to move back to the positions they occupied before they took Huambo airport. [passage omitted]

Chicotti: Portugal's Soares Could be More Constructive

LD0611212494 Lisbon RTP Internacional Television in Portuguese 1900 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Angolan deputy foreign affairs minister is in Lisbon. In an interview with RTP, Jorge Chicotti, expressed indignation at the campaign against the Angolan Government carried out by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] representatives in Lisbon and by Portuguese personalities. Chicotti praised the Portuguese Government, but criticized some of President Soares's positions.

[Begin recording] [Chicotti] What we feel today is that there is a campaign by UNITA itself, and by a number of personalities outside Angola, and perhaps here in Portugal as well, to give the impression that the government has intensified attacks or an offensive against Huambo after the signing of the Lusaka Protocol on 31 October.

[Unidentified correspondent] But the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] forces are advancing toward Huambo.

[Chicotti] They can advance toward Huambo like they could advance toward any other city.

[Correspondent] But Huambo is UNITA's stronghold.

[Chicotti] But if UNITA occupied that city by force, and the government forces were in the Huambo Province

long before, then why is it a problem this time? The government never said it would call the accords into question. Therefore...

[Correspondent, interrupting] With the operations on the ground, in practice are you not calling into question that accord?

[Chicotti] I would just like to ask if until now the government actions...[pauses] the UNITA military actions are not valid. Do you know how many bombs explode each day in Angola? Do you know no one can move anywhere in Angola? Do you know how many people are dying in Cuito, Menongue, Malanje, of hunger—that is the reality.

What the Angolan Government has done until now, and with great courage, is to defend the people and agree to negotiate with UNITA.

In Angola, we more or less know what Dr. Mario Soares's stance has been. I think it could have been far more constructive. But I regret that he—but I cannot judge...

[Correspondent, interrupting] Are you criticizing him for lack of impartiality?

[Chicotti] I am not criticizing, I am simply saying that I would not share some of the points, some opinions that I have heard concerning that intervention. But well, Portugal is a sovereign country and I have great respect for Dr. Mario Soares, so I think his contribution, his position could have been better and different as was seen [words indistinct] first time that we are feeling some hostility. [end recording]

Radio Reports UNITA Operations in South Intensifying

MB0611194794 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Our country continues to talk war. The situation on the Southern Military Front has been described as worrisome. Since the Lusaka protocol was initiated, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] has intensified its operations in that area. It has carried out attacks and ambushes. It has shelled areas, and it has planted mines in the outlying areas of the districts recently freed by the government forces. UNITA's aim is to dislodge the government forces from their positions before the possible signing of a cease-fire agreement.

A communique issued by the Southern Military Front General Staff Public Relations Office says the UNITA armed forces attacked Dembo commune, east of Matala, at 0500 on 3 November. A total 15 civilians were killed and another six wounded. In response, the Angolan Armed Forces put four UNITA rebels out of action, seized four AKM weapons, and captured one UNITA soldier.

State Radio Says Government Controls Huambo

LD0611233194 Lisbon RDP Antena 1 Radio Network in Portuguese 2300 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The city of Huambo has been taken by Angolan Government forces. Soyo has also been taken. This has been reported by the Angolan National Radio. The area housing the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] headquarters has been taken. This was confirmed by an Angolan National Radio correspondent:

[Unidentified correspondent] The Angolan Armed Forces strategically took the city of Huambo early in the afternoon. Sources of the armed forces contacted by ANGOP [Angolan News Agency] in the central front, have said that the fighting is continuing. There is no clear picture of how the situation will evolve.

Our forces are consolidating their positions, said a spokesman for the Armed Forces General Staff. The oil municipality of Soyo in the Zaire province has been under the control of government forces since Friday [4 November].

The UNITA leadership has left Huambo via the [word indistinct] of the city. Jonas Savimbi's whereabouts are unknown, it is assumed he left Huambo a few days ago.

MPLA Army Said 6-10 Km From Huambo

MB0711053894 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0500 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Angolan Government forces are intensifying their offensive against the city of Huambo, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] headquarters. The Angolan Government is engaged in that offensive when President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi are expected to sign a peace accord in the Zambian capital some time next week.

The BBC quotes a number of international news agencies as reporting that the government forces are now six to 10 km from the city. Sources in Luanda have said that the UNITA leadership already has withdrawn from Huambo.

Source Confirms Huambo, Soyo in Government Control

MB0711063994 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] strategically took the city of Huambo early yesterday afternoon. Huambo was the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola's [UNITA] general headquarters. FAA sources on the Central Military Front told the ANGOLAN PRESS AGENCY [ANGOP] that the fighting is continuing and there has been no definitive assessment yet of how the situation is evolving.

Those sources noted that the government forces now are consolidating their positions.

The UNITA leadership pulled out of the city through the east. The exact location of Jonas Savimbi is unknown, but it is thought he left Huambo a few days ago. The situation of the foreigners serving a number of nongovernmental organizations in Huambo also is unknown. Those organizations had been warned to pull their personnel out of the city. Those FAA sources also said they did not know what had happened to the foreign journalists who—at UNITA's invitation—had been reporting from Huambo over the last few days. That source added that those journalists entered the country illegally so Angolan authorities cannot be held accountable for their safety.

The source also told ANGOP that a first assessment of the situation suggests there is reason to fear that the people UNITA had detained in Huambo—for belonging to the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] Party, the FAA forces, and the Angolan police—when it took over the city in March 1993 have been killed.

An Angola Air Force aircraft was shot down over the Huambo city center yesterday morning when it provided support for the FAA forces. Asked whether the FAA's capture of Huambo will endanger the peace process, that source replied that Huambo's capture is no danger. Bicesse was also like that and these are the last few moments before peace. That source also announced that FAA forces have been in control of Zaire Province's oil-rich Soyo District since 4 November.

Reports Conflict on Who Occupies Huambo

MB0711080694 London BBC World Service in English
0600 GMT 7 Nov 94

[From the "Network Africa" program presented by David Cooper]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Angola over the last few days, government forces have been laying siege to the rebel UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] headquarters in the city of Huambo. The fighting continues in parallel with preparations for the signing of a peace agreement between the two sides in Lusaka. Throughout Angola's civil war, much significance has been attached to who controls the city of Huambo and late last night the government came out and claimed that their troops had actually overrun it. Earlier this morning, I spoke to our correspondent in Luanda, Chris Simpson, and I asked him what was known about the situation in Huambo.

[Begin recording] [Simpson] We have fairly conflicting versions of events at the moment. Angolan National Radio led its late-night news bulletin with an account of how the Angolan Armed Forces had taken the city. It was based on military sources and it made it very clear that Angolan Government troops were inside Huambo and

they were consolidating their positions. Fighting was still going on but the general message was very clear: The government was now back in control of Huambo after a long time under UNITA's occupation. That does not tally at all with what one has been hearing from relief agencies in contact with the city. The general word from them is that while fighting has obviously been very heavy around Huambo—it has been a very volatile weekend—the airport, in particular, remains with UNITA as far as it is understood and the government has yet to actually penetrate the city proper. There has been bombing outside the city; there has been a certain amount of heavy artillery being used but at the moment the fighting has not really moved inside Huambo. That is what we are being told from those sources.

[Cooper] You have been to Huambo on a number of occasions. At what point would either side be able to claim definitive control of the city. I mean, how is it laid out, as it were?

[Simpson] Well, it stretches in several directions. There are a lot of semi-rural outlying barrios, which are more or less like villages, and you have a fairly standard civic center. One imagines that if they took the UNITA headquarters, if they took what remains of the municipal buildings and those kinds of installations, that that would constitute proper takeover, but at the moment it is not even clear if the troops are inside the outlying suburbs.

[Cooper] So, looking ahead, if the government do prove to have taken Huambo at some stage in the next few days, what effect is that going to have on the upcoming Lusaka Peace Agreement?

[Simpson] Well, from here it seems like it will have a very negative effect and what we are still being told by the United Nations and others involved in the peace process is that the talks can still be completed successfully. On Thursday [10 November], there is a meeting scheduled between the two rival chiefs of staff—General Joao de Matos from the government's side and General Ben Ben from the UNITA side—and they are both meant to be coming to Lusaka and then, five days after that, we get President dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi also coming to the Zambian capital to sign this momentous peace agreement, as if the fighting were not going at all, or as if the fighting had no bearing on this.

[Cooper] So preparations for peace and war continue at the same time?

[Simpson] Yes, it is a very paradoxical situation, but I think it is fair to say that the latest round of fighting around Huambo has caused an awful amount of concern among the peacemakers. For so long, we have had these peace talks going on yet, at the same time, the war has not shown any real sign of letting up—and this does seem to be the critical period. Are both sides serious about peace or is the war going to enter a new chapter? [end recording]

UNITA Official: MPLA Offensive 'Harmful' to Lusaka Accord

MB0711072194 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, general minister] General Lukamba Paulo Gato told Radio France International on 6 November that the ongoing general offensive by the communist Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party [MPLA-PT] government led by Jose Eduardo dos Santos against UNITA-controlled areas—particularly the city of Huambo, the capital of Huambo Province, on the Central Plateau—is absolutely harmful to the Lusaka Protocol initialed on 31 October.

The senior UNITA official added that continued fighting will not make it possible for significant steps to be taken to conclude the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol leading to national reconciliation. It is worth noting that this situation presupposes the derailing of the Angolan peace process, and the international community has made constant calls on the Luanda government to cease hostilities as rapidly as possible so the Lusaka Protocol can be formally concluded. The Zambian capital has hosted the peace talks for nearly 12 months now.

UNITA Radio Says Still 'Fierce' Clashes Around Huambo

MB0711070794 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A Sukhoi-22 aircraft of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party [MPLA-PT] air force led by Eduardo dos Santos was shot down by National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] armed forces over the much martyred city of Huambo on 6 November. Lourenco Bento, the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel correspondent in that city, reports that the Sukhoi-22 aircraft was brought down with an antiaircraft missile as it flew over the city dropping bombs. The aircraft was piloted by Major Dias of Catumbela Air Base. That was the second MPLA-PT air force aircraft shot down in the last week.

Extremely fierce clashes resumed in the Huambo area today. The MPLA-PT has launched an offensive to try taking that city. Reports say the MPLA-PT has lost more than 300 men, including some officers, in the last few hours. Meanwhile, it is thought that more clashes will occur within the next few days because—judging by the remarks its senior officials have been making to the media—Luanda does not appear likely to change its offensive stance.

As for the UNITA armed forces, they have no option other than to resist with all available resources until such a time that Luanda understands the war will never resolve Angola's political problems.

Army Spokesman Says Government Forces Recapture Huambo

MB0711113894 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1100 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Angolan Army says it has captured UNITA's [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] stronghold of Huambo in the central highlands after a two-week battle. An Army spokesman, Brigadier Jose Manuel (Jota), told Portuguese Radio that UNITA forces had retreated east toward the town of Bailundo. However, government troops were not pursuing them as they only wanted to restore order in Huambo. Brigadier (Jota) said the recapturing of the city should not prevent the signing of a new peace agreement next week. Communication to Huambo has broken down, making it impossible to independently verify the report.

Renamo Official Says Party Will Accept Results

MB0411201094 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 4 Nov 94

[Report by correspondent Pancredo Neves from Maputo]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] Party is pleased with the holding of the first elections in Mozambique. It is, however, still premature to say they were free and fair. Raul Domingos, head of Renamo's Political Affairs Department, told Luanda Radio in Maputo today that his party will cooperate with the winner if it loses last week's elections.

[Begin Domingos recording] Renamo did not fight for power. It fought for the introduction of democratic rule in Mozambique. Win or lose, the objective is to guarantee peace; political, economic, and social stability; and the consolidation of democracy in the country. Thus, in one way or another, Renamo is ready to cooperate. [end recording]

Leonardo Simao, deputy chief of the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] press office, said his party will cooperate with Renamo and other forces if it wins the elections but excluded the possibility of a government of national unity.

Renamo said there will be lasting peace in Mozambique. It said it decided to withdraw from the electoral process hours before the beginning of the elections to avoid being compared with the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], which rejected electoral results in Angola in 1992.

[Begin Domingos recording] You must try to avoid such comparisons. We decided in advance to warn about the danger the elections represented for the country by denouncing irregularities right from the start. We would be compared with UNITA if we kept quiet and then decided at the end to refuse the results, alleging irregularities. [end recording]

Lesotho

Reinstatement of King Moshoeshoe II Announced

MB0311134694 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1331
GMT 3 Nov 94

[Report by Hannes de Wet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pretoria Nov 3 SAPA—King Moshoeshoe II is to be reinstated as monarch of Lesotho. Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe, head of the southern African task team on Lesotho, announced this in Pretoria on Thursday afternoon. "I'm glad that a bill is being formulated to implement this reinstatement," he said.

This was confirmed by Lesotho's King Letsie III who said he was delighted at the reinstatement. "I have been fighting for this for the past four years. It will enhance the process of reconciliation and peace in Lesotho."

The announcement came at the end of a meeting attended by Mr Mugabe, Botswana's Sir Ketumile Masire, King Letsie, Lesotho Prime Minister Ntsu Mokhehle and South Africa's Deputy President Thabo Mbeki.

Mozambique

Elections Commission Begins to Receive Voting Results

MB0411153594 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Radio Mozambique has learned from the National Elections Commission [CNE] that it already has begun to receive partial election results from provinces. Results from 23 polling stations in Gaza, Inhambane, and Manica already have been received at CNE headquarters. The CNE expects to receive other election results from other constituencies soon. [passage omitted]

Radio Views Results

MB0411123294 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Reports from Tete Province say that Joaquim Chissano leads with a difference of 2,324 votes, while the Mozambique National Resistance

[Renamo] leads the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] Party with 36,034 votes more. [passage omitted]

Reports from Nampula Province, the country's most populous area, say that, out of a total of 111,324 registered voters, 96,110 people—or 86 percent of the electorate—cast their ballots in the presidential elections in Namapa District, the third largest of Nampula Province. There were 6,861 null and void votes. There were 7,867 blank votes and 15,214 abstentions. Presidential candidate Chissano got 32,335 votes to Dhlakama's 22,716. In the legislative elections, Frelimo picked up 24,092 votes to Renamo's 20,340. [passage omitted] Only 70.8 percent of voters cast their legislative ballots.

In neighboring Nacaroa District, a preliminary vote count gives a slight edge to Joaquim Chissano, who has 10,492 votes to Afonso Dhlakama's 10,376. In the legislative elections, Renamo has picked up 11,831 votes to Frelimo's 8,418. It has not been possible to obtain figures for abstentions and blank, as well as null and void votes in Nacaroa District. [passage omitted]

In Niassa Province, Chissano has the upper hand in just about every district. Dhlakama managed to do better in two areas only. [passage omitted] In the legislative elections, Renamo managed to surge ahead in five districts, securing 25,353 votes from those areas. However, Frelimo is ahead in 11 districts. Chissano has picked up a total of 124,785 votes. Dhlakama is coming in second with 55,552 votes. Frelimo has so far picked up 96,880 votes to Renamo's 63,182. We have had no reports from Lago, Sanga, and Marrupa Districts yet. [passage omitted]

International Community To Cover CNE Budget Deficit

MB0411153494 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The international community already has given assurances that it will cover the budget deficit of \$5 million so the National Elections Commission [CNE] can finish all activities connected with the electoral process in Mozambique. NOTICIAS newspaper learned this from the UN Development Program's Bruno Soares. At a news conference last week, CNE Chairman Brazao Mazula said his commission needs financial assistance of \$5 million. He also said the CNE could require more money if there is need for a second round of presidential elections.

Benin**'Urgent Problems' Delay Visit by Nigeria's Abacha***AB0311084294 Paris AFP in French 2219 GMT 2 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cotonou, 2 Nov (AFP)—The 24-hour official visit that Nigerian Leader General Sani Abacha was to make to Benin tomorrow has been postponed indefinitely, it was learned in Cotonou from the Beninese Presidency this evening.

In a message to the Beninese Presidency, Gen. Abacha announced that he could not come to Cotonou as a result of "urgent problems in Nigeria," the same source added. The visit had been announced today by the Beninese Presidency.

The Nigerian president was to meet with Nicephore Soglo, his Beninese counterpart, mainly to discuss problems related to the subregion and bilateral cooperation. Gen. Abacha is expected to participate in a subregional summit in the Beninese economic capital on 12 November. The summit, which will be devoted to fighting terrorism, will also be attended by the Beninese, Togolese, and Ghanaian heads of state.

Cote d'Ivoire**Gbagbo on National Political Situation***AB0211151594 Abidjan LA VOIE in French 2 Nov 94
pp 2,3*

[Second of two installments interview with Popular Front Leader Laurent Gbagbo by LA VOIE; place and date not given—first paragraph is LA VOIE introduction]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] As part of the resumption of the Ivorian Popular Front's political activities, which will be marked by a rally at Robert Champroux Stadium on 5 November, we proposed on 31 October the first installment of an interview granted us by FPI General Secretary Gbagbo. After analyzing Konan Bedie's first 10 months in power, the FPI general secretary today discusses quite a new concept for the 1995 elections, that is, the Republican Front.

[LA VOIE] Mr. Secretary General, you held discussions with the Democratic Party of Cote d'Ivoire-African Democratic Rally [PDCI-RDA] for many months. You made proposals and you even entered into negotiations with the PDCI parliamentary group concerning the upcoming elections. What is your conclusion today?

[Gbagbo] I understand the cause of the mistakes I usually read in the newspapers. After the December 1992 Convention in Bouake, we created an internal organ within the FPI called the National Electoral Committee [CENAT] and assigned it a mission. The CENAT then

drew up a document which was ready in August 1993. We proposed this document to the then prime minister, Alassane Ouattara, hoping that the government would take the initiative of convening a meeting of all the sides interested in the elections. That would have been the way to open true discussions so that we could have adopted, together, a consensus electoral code. When that government was replaced by Mr. Duncan's, we gave the new prime minister another copy of the same document and made the same proposal to him. The government has refused such a debate, and this is what you should understand.

The government has refused to organize such a debate. It was then that the speaker of the National Assembly, a PDCI member, proposed to us discussions between the two parliamentary groups, to see whether there are some points on which we could agree concerning the passage of a bill which we would submit to the government. Such informal discussions actually took place. We particularly wanted discussions initiated by the government, which would have brought together all the sides interested in the elections. But they did not accept our proposal and, finally, the discussions did not take place.

In many African countries, the government has invited political parties to such discussions. This has happened in Gabon, Senegal, and Niger for example. In those countries, the parties were invited by the governments, but the Ivorian Government did not take that initiative. Therefore, the discussion that we wanted did not take place. Outside the deliberations at the parliament delegations of parliamentary groups tried to hold discussions. That was the background to this meeting.

[LA VOIE] What did you discuss with the PDCI parliamentary group?

[Gbagbo] I will comment on the minutes of these meetings in a moment, but on the vote of foreigners, the two delegations agreed that the provisions in the Constitution should be implemented. On foreign observers, we agreed that Ivorians should organize the elections, but that the government should invite observers or agree to authorize those who apply to be observers. On transparent ballot boxes, both delegations agreed that we should have transparent ballot boxes. The FPI delegation proposed a single ballot paper to the PDCI, which took note and promised to study the issue. On the ballot system for the legislative and municipal elections, the FPI proposed voting by the proportional representation system. The PDCI delegation took note and promised to think about it.

[LA VOIE] But right now the government, in which the PDCI has the majority, not only continues to implement its program—since the minister of interior has confirmed that there will be attestations of identity—but continues to carry out the revision of its electoral lists. It is doing so in disregard to the proposals that you have already made to it. What is the FPI's position on that?

What action does the FPI intend to take so that elections will be genuinely transparent?

[Gbagbo] I have already said several times before the directorate of our party and before the section secretaries that there is only one path to success, the path of struggle. We must fight on the field. I have asked all our grassroots committees to systematically carry out a counter-registration of voters in the villages, so that at the appropriate time, when the lists are displayed in the subprefectures, we will be able to verify to see that our people are registered, and that people who are not in a given community are not registered. Also we have, for the moment, asked all our supporters to go ahead and make attestations to their identification, in spite of everything. We have asked all our supporters and sympathizers to get registered. We have given directives to that end.

[LA VOIE] On the field of struggle, now there is the RDR. What do you think of that? Is an alliance possible?

[Gbagbo] I personally think the advent of RDR is a good thing—for a number of reasons. The PDCI is rightist party, the FPI is a democratically leftist party. There was no party in the center—so the RDR has come to fill that gap.

Also, the fact that the PDCI has been “broken into two” is obviously a good thing for us. Now you are raising the issue of alliances. Alliances have not as yet been made. It must be admitted that this party is new, and that it is in the process of being structured.

[LA VOIE] It is in the process of drawing up its manifesto.

[Gbagbo] Yes, it is drawing up its manifesto. I do not think we should rush things. We shall be holding our extraordinary congress in a little over a month, in December. During these few days of the congress, we are going to adopt our draft manifesto and program for government. The RDR will also hold its congress, and will spell out its views on the elections. We shall do the same. From that time on, if it is in the scheme of things that we should be allies, then we will. [passage omitted]

[LA VOIE] Mr. Secretary General, in discussing a common front for republicans, some people are already proposing scenarios for 1995. They present three scenarios for the elections: 1. Bedie is president of the Republic, with Alassane Ouattara as prime minister and Gbagbo speaker of the National Assembly; 2. Gbagbo is president of the Republic, with Alassane Ouattara as prime minister and; 3. Alassane Ouattara is president of the Republic with Gbagbo as prime minister. Which scenario suits you?

[Gbagbo laughs] These scenarios are made up by journalists. In every country journalists set up scenarios. The role of a party leader is to lead the party into the political battle, and this is what I am doing. I do not have to enter

into any scenario. My problem is to know how to dispose my troops so that they are in the best battle condition. [passage omitted]

Ghana

Foreign Minister Says Withdrawal From ECOMOG Possible

AB0511173694 Paris AFP in English 1120 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Accra, 5 Nov (AFP)—Foreign Minister Obed Asamoah repeated Saturday [5 November] a threat to withdraw Ghana's contingent from the African peacekeeping force ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] if armed factions failed to agree [to] a solution to Liberia's five-year-old civil war. “ECOMOG cannot be in Liberia forever,” Asamoah was quoted as saying by the official GHANA NEWS AGENCY. The minister was speaking ahead of informal talks with factional and civilian leaders in a follow-up to the failed 12 September Akosombo accord, condemned in Monrovia as a recipe for “military dictatorship.”

According to the agency, Asamoah said leaders of “all” groupings in the conflict had now arrived in Accra, except the nominal National Patriotic Front (NPFL) leader Charles Taylor.

Saying there were “no quick solutions and easy answers” to the Liberian conflict, the foreign minister added: “We are trying to get something that is workable.” [passage omitted]

ECOMOG Units Urged To Remain

AB0311222594 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 2000 GMT 3 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Ugandan president, Mr. Yoweri Museveni, and his entourage left Accra this afternoon for home after a day's visit to the country. He was seen off by the president, Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings, and government officials. Earlier, the two leaders discussed the Liberian crisis at the Castle, Osu. President Rawlings expressed gratitude for the participation of Ugandan troops in peacekeeping in Liberia. President Museveni gave the assurance that he will not withdraw Ugandan troops service with ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] in Liberia. He told President Rawlings that Uganda has an obligation, as an African nation, to see that peace returns to Liberia. Teye-Kitcher has the details:

[Teye-Kitcher] The two presidents took advantage of their meeting to exchange ideas on African matters. At the top of their agenda was the Liberian situation. This was so because Uganda has soldiers with ECOMOG in Liberia to help bring peace to that country. President Museveni acknowledged that his country had initially

wanted to withdraw her troops from Liberia as a result of what was seen as a stalemate in the efforts to achieve peace. He conceded, however, that as an African country, Uganda has an obligation to help bring about peace. For this reason, President Museveni said Ugandan troops will stay on in Liberia as a duty to a brother African nation in search of peace. President Rawlings expressed gratitude for the Ugandan presence in Liberia. He pointed out that the presence of the Ugandan troops has helped to allay some fears being entertained by some of the factions in Liberia. Everything must, therefore, be done to maintain the Ugandan presence.

President Rawlings said that it is unfortunate that the Liberian conflict has taken so long. It is also unfortunate that there was some disinformation on the Akosombo Accord. He emphasized the need for a political solution to the Liberian crisis. Countries contributing troops to ECOMOG must, therefore, not entertain the idea of withdrawal until Liberia achieves peace. In the words of the president, the situation in Liberia could be brought under control with the joint efforts of all concerned. With President Rawlings and President Museveni at the discussions were the foreign ministers of the two countries, Dr. Obed Asamoah, and Dr. Paul Ssemogerere, as well as the defense ministers, Alhaji Mahama Iddrisu and Mr. Amama Mbabazi.

Niger

Opposition Party Leaders Say Electoral Commission Illegal

AB0211190094 Niamey *Voix du Sahel* Network in French 1200 GMT 2 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The leaders of the National Movement of the Development Society-Nassara [MNSD-Nassara], the Niger Party for Democracy and Socialism-Tareya [PNDS-Tareya], the Union of Progressive Patriots and Democrats-Chamwa, the Union of Popular Forces for Democracy and Progress-Sawaba, and the Niger Progressive Party-African Democratic Rally [PPN-RDA] have met with members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Niamey. High on the agenda of this meeting was the current political crisis in our country and its consequences, including the creation of the national commission charged with supervising the legislative by-elections.

At this meeting, PNDS-Tareya Secretary General Mahamadou Issoufou explained to the members of the diplomatic corps present at the meeting the reasons for his resignation as prime minister and for his party's withdrawal from the Alliance of Forces of Change, while Dandiko Dankoulodo of the PPN-RDA, explained the problems currently facing his movement. After this meeting, our correspondent, Mahamadou Seydou, interviewed MNSD-Nassara Secretary General Hama Amadou:

[Begin Seydou recording] The purpose of this meeting is in line with our policy to inform all Niger's partners on the conditions for the organization of the legislative by-elections. We took this opportunity to inform the representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Niger on the illegal nature of the commission that was set up by the interior minister to organize these elections.

We stressed to them that the electoral code, which has not been revised, does not allow for the formation of any electoral commission. During the transitional period, the three bodies—the High Council of the Republic, the government, and the president of the Republic—met to find a modus operandi for the elections and an ordinance was signed on the creation of the National Commission for Monitoring and Supervising Elections and the National Administrative Commission attached to the executive power whose roles were clearly defined. Article 152 of the current electoral code stipulates that their attributions are only valid for the duration of the transition, that is the referendum, the legislative elections, and the presidential elections in the transitional period. Apart from this, the only reference to the National Administrative Commission such as it exists—it was created three days ago by the interior minister—concerns the counting of votes and the transmission of results.

The electoral code has no provisions for the creation of an electoral commission, whereas elections are governed by law. The law must necessarily provide for this commission before it is set up legally. A legal vacuum has, therefore, been created by the unrevised electoral code. We have tried to make the authorities see the reality of this legal vacuum by saying that it is only the law that was adopted recently by the National Assembly on the electoral code that can allow the holding of fair elections.

Now, the question is to know whether the violation of the law is going to be perpetuated through this commission which has no legal basis, and if the revised electoral code itself will continue to be violated. This is because, as you well know, at the level of the municipalities and all the structures, the administrative commissions provided for by the electoral code for the census and registration of the Niger electorate has not been done. There is no administrative commission in any of the municipalities in Niamey and in the interior of the country. It is only the administrative leaders who are all practically [word indistinct] compiling the electoral lists. Regarding this situation, we told them that there is no transparency in the process and that we cannot accept it. [end recording]

Nigeria

Abiola Reported in Jail Despite Release Order

AB0511151094 Paris AFP in English 1317 GMT 5 Nov 94

[By Jacques Pinto]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Lagos, Nov 5 (AFP)—Moshood Abiola was reported still behind bars Saturday [5 November], a day after a court ordered his release from jail in a move which cast the opposition leader back into the political limelight and marked a setback for the ruling junta. With news of Friday's court order dominating the Nigerian press, Doyin Abiola, one of the Muslim millionaire's wives, told AFP Saturday she had received no news of her husband and believed he was still being held in a prison in the federal capital Abuja. Abiola's relatives added that the military authorities were in no hurry to carry out the release order handed down Friday by the High Court of Appeal in the northern city of Kaduna.

The court freed Abiola on bail on condition he do nothing to disturb public order—a decision the military government immediately referred to the Supreme Court. [passage omitted]

Both the independent TRIBUNE and the pro-junta DAILY TIMES led their Saturday editions on Abiola, with the former describing his release as unconditional and the latter citing the court's proviso.

Alao Aka-Bashorun, head of Abiola's defence team, hailed Friday's bail decision, saying it had rekindled the people's hopes that the power of the judiciary could save the nation, NAN said. But top Nigerian lawyer Gani Fawehinmi told AFP the government's bid to block bail in the Supreme Court signalled its determination not to give way.

The military regime might well invoke security legislation it enacted in September to keep Abiola inside, beyond the reach of any court, Fawehinmi warned, predicting a dangerous escalation of emotions if that were to happen.

Meanwhile, diplomatic sources said Saturday the Kaduna court's decision had undermined the authority of the junta of General Sani Abacha. [passage omitted]

Appeals Court Supports Bail

AB0411123794 Paris AFP in English 1234 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, Nov 4 (AFP)—An appeals court in the northern city of Kaduna ruled Friday [4 November] that opposition leader Moshood Abiola should be freed on bail, his lawyer said.

Abiola, who was widely believed to have won the presidential election cancelled by the military last year, was arrested last June and charged with treason after proclaiming himself president.

Government Challenges Decision

AB0411172094 Paris AFP in English 1704 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By Jacques Pinto]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Lagos, Nov 4 (AFP)—Nigeria's appeals court Friday [4 November] ordered the release of jailed opposition leader Moshood Abiola, but the military government immediately referred the decision to the Supreme Court, lawyers said.

Abiola's lawyer Bayo Oriola said the High Court of Appeal in the northern city of Kaduna had freed him on bail on condition he did nothing to disturb public order. Presiding judge Umaru Abdullahi waived surety, saying the multi-millionaire businessman could be trusted to turn up in court again, according to Oriola.

But the military regime announced it would challenge the release order, the official news agency NAN reported. Solicitor-General Tochukwu Onwugbutor told NAN that so much was at stake that only the Supreme Court could make a definitive ruling. [passage omitted]

But Nigerian lawyer Gani Fawehinmi told AFP the government's bid to block bail in the Supreme Court signalled its determination not to give way. Fawehinmi hinted that the government would be particularly galled that the court had in effect granted Abiola unconditional bail by waiving surety.

The military regime might well invoke security legislation it enacted in September to keep Abiola inside, beyond the reach of any court, Fawehinmi warned, predicting a dangerous escalation of emotions if that were to happen.

Under those decrees, the government in effect gave itself powers of unlimited detention, prolonging the existing limit of preventative detention for those deemed to pose a threat to national security from six weeks to a renewable three months.

Observers said the military government was very wary of trying Abiola in Lagos, where he has his support base. [passage omitted]

The Abiola affair has been kept on the boil by the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) which has warned repeatedly that his health is deteriorating.

Abiola's family has expressed alarm over an alleged plan to transfer him almost 1,000 kilometres (620 miles) by road from his prison cell in Abuja to another prison, in Gashua, in the hot and desertic north-eastern Yobe state.

Such a journey could seriously worsen his health, the family has warned, citing NMA reports that Abiola is already suffering from problems with his spine and leg.

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